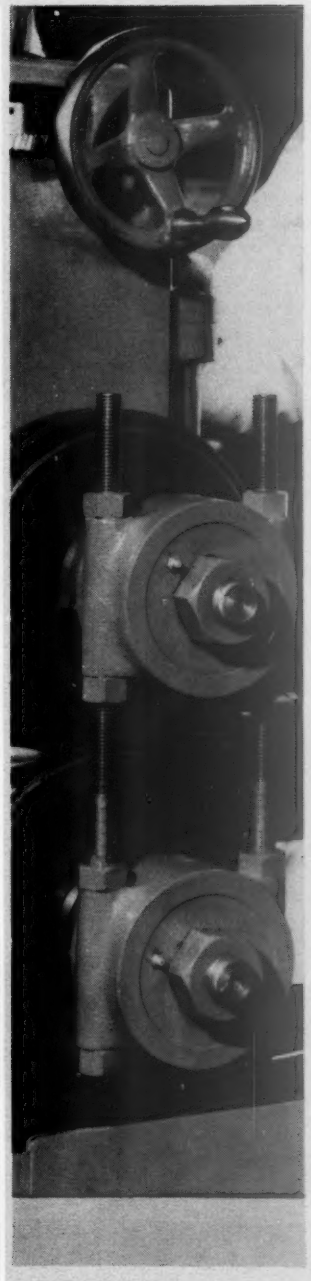
Trade and Industry

30 May 1975 15p



Mexican blast furnace project

visited Spain. Other popular des
per cent), France (6 per cent) and Austria (

BLE 1 Overseas visitors to the UK

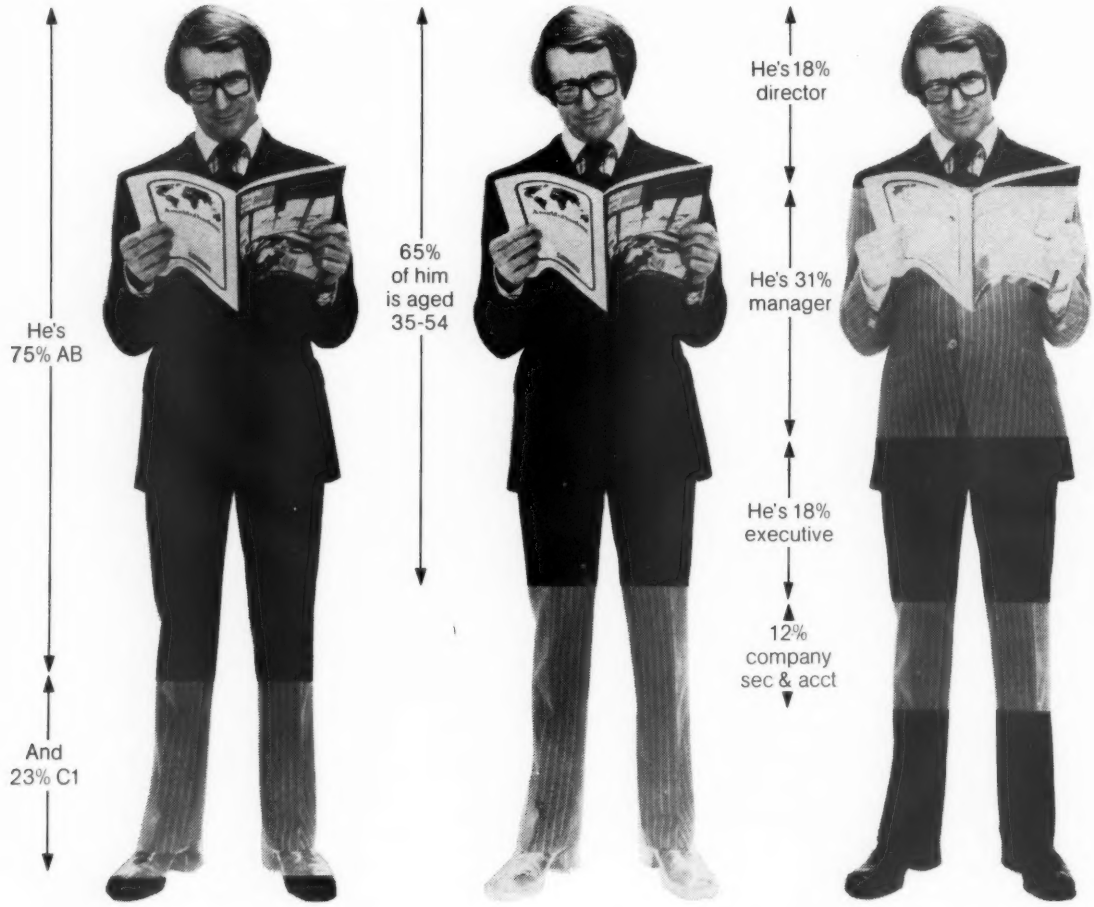
Number of visits (thousands)	% increase on previous year	Number of nights spent in UK (millions)	% increase on previous year	Ex in (£
4,289	8.1	78.8		
4,828	12.6	90.3		
5,821	20.6	100.1	14.6	
6,692	15.0	102.9	10.9	
6,973	4.2	104.8	2.2	
7,167	2.8	109.8	2.4	
7,724	7.8	110.6	4.8	
7,935	2.7		0.7	
,138				
,953	4.4			

Sex Discrimination Bill

International passenger survey

Machine tool statistics

Who you're reaching when you use Trade and Industry



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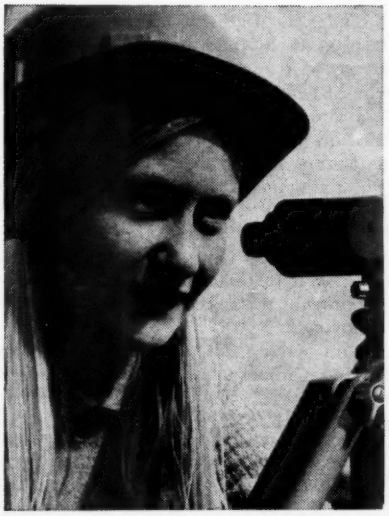
Trade and Industry

30 May 1975

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection



Susan Vale is pictured during work as deputy resident engineer on a £1½ million project in Sussex – a job which represents the increasing opportunities of employment for women. Baroness Seear, a notable proponent of equal rights and opportunities for women, outlines the Sex Discrimination Bill which is expected to become law later in the year.

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In common with other publications, *Trade and Industry* has been subject to increased paper and production costs. It has regrettably become necessary to raise the price of *Trade and Industry* to 20p per copy (post-paid subscription £15.34 a year) with effect from the next issue.

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Owing to an industrial dispute a certain number of items which would normally appear in this issue have been held over.

Home News

Prime Minister's statement on the UK textile industry

On 23 May, immediately before the House of Commons went into the Spring Bank Holiday recess, the Prime Minister made a statement on the present situation in the British textile industries.

Mr. Wilson said: 'The Government has been examining the situation which has developed in these industries in the context of the worst world recession since the 1930s, which has hit with particular severity the textile industries of the developed and developing world alike. Indeed, other developed countries are even worse off than we are. The level of textile unemployment in the United States, in Germany, in Belgium, Ireland and Denmark is substantially higher than ours.

'The United Kingdom is a party to the Multi-Fibre Arrangement under the aegis of GATT. Within the MFA, agreements are being progressively made with low-cost textile suppliers, mainly in developing countries. An arrangement with India has been initialled: negotiations with Hong Kong are well advanced, they have begun with Korea: and arrangements are being finalised for the imposition of restraints on Taiwan. These multilateral negotiations, while having regard to the interests of the less-developed countries, will give the UK industry a more effective degree of protection than it has ever had before, and certainly more than can be achieved by unilateral protective action.

'Wherever evidence can be produced of dumping, subsidised exports or other forms of unfair trading, Government are ready and willing to take vigorous protective action on behalf of these industries, and other industries outside these.

'After very careful examination of all the evidence, the Government have taken the view that the British Textile Confederation's proposals for unilateral action to provide an across-the-board cut of 20 per cent would be inappropriate, ineffective and would lead to certain retaliation against the products of these and other industries.

'The present problems facing these industries go deeper than the problems of import penetration, in fact, in nearly all the major textile sectors, the volume of imports in the first quarter of this year has not increased compared with the average over the first half of last year: it has, in fact, fallen. The percentage of our home market represented by import penetration again has fallen.

'We could not therefore justify, under our GATT obligations a general cut in imports, apart, as I have said, from any cases of unfair competition we can identify in this or any other industries. We should be breaking the Multi-Fibre Arrangement which is of benefit to our industries and which the TUC Textiles, Clothing and Footwear Industries' Committee has described as the keystone of a long-term policy for achieving a stable pattern of trade and greater confidence in the industries.

'It would also be totally contrary to the policy we advocated at the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting and would be detrimental to our trade within the Commonwealth. Certainly it would be bound to lead to other countries applying similar measures against our trade, from which the industries we are trying to help would be among the first to suffer.

'The Government has therefore decided upon direct action to help the industries, on which we will now consult with all those concerned in the industries sector by sector. We have suffered enough in recent years through lack of industrial capacity lost during the recession period and through lack of investment and modernisation. We are determined to ensure that the world-wide recession in these industries, as in others, does not cause damage which would mean the loss of viable capacity which will be needed when the expected upturn comes in world markets.

'Under the Industry Act we have powers appropriate to this objective. A scheme is already in operation under these powers to help the wool textile industry. The House will be aware that in the Budget Speech on 15 April my Rt. Hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that he was setting aside £100 million particularly to assist industry to modernise. We shall not hesitate to draw on this provision or to use the other powers available to the Government to help these industries to maintain their ability to produce and provide the maximum possible level of employment.

'I am making this statement today before the House adjourns in view of the anxiety in these industries. The urgent work and consultations necessary to achieve the Government's objective will continue while the House is in recess. Should it be possible to make a further announcement before the House returns I am sure Hon. Members would agree that it should be made in the recess, and the House will be fully informed of progress on all these matters when Parliament resumes.'

Amendments to the Price Code

An order amending the Price Code was laid before Parliament on 23 May. The amendments were first announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget statement on 15 April, and this was followed by the publication of a Consultative Document on 16 April by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The changes to the Code came into effect on 27 May. They are chiefly designed to assist the liquidity of those firms engaged in exporting and to support investment. During the consultative period the Government sought the views of representatives of industry, commerce, trade unions and consumers, as well as the Price Commission, and as a result some alterations and additions have been made to the original proposals.

Investment relief: Paragraph 79 of the Code permits firms to increase their prices and profit margins in order to recoup a percentage of their firmly budgeted expenditure on certain investment over a 12-month period. The changes raise the rate of relief from 17½ per cent to 20 per cent, extend the relief to cover expenditure on commercial road vehicles and put investment in export operations on the same basis as investment for the home market.

Balance of payments: A provision has been added to paragraph 83 of the Code that enables the Secretary of State to issue a certificate authorising specified departures from the Code in order to remove or reduce a significant adverse effect or the serious threat of such as effect on the United Kingdom balance of payments.

Vehicle excise duty: Vehicle excise duty is included in the list of 'allowable costs' for the purpose of determining the permitted level of price increases (paragraph 32 of the Code). This takes account of the increase in vehicle excise duty announced on 15 April.

An amendment to the Counter-Inflation (Prices and Charges) (Information) Order 1974 also came into operation on 27 May 1975 and affects those firms who are obliged to make regular reports of their prices and profit margins to the Price Commission. The amendment is consequential upon the changes to the investment relief in the Price Code and requires those firms already applying the investment relief to inform the Price Commission of any consequential additions to their relief claims before they apply the extra relief to their prices and profit margin ceilings. The normal 28-day prenotification period continues to apply to price increases of the larger (Category I and II) manufacturing and service firms.

The orders are the Counter-Inflation (Price Code) (Amendment) Order 1975 SI 1975/864, which is subject to an Affirmative Resolution of both Houses, and the Counter-Inflation (Prices and Charges) (Information) (Amendment) Order 1975 SI 1975/865, which does not have to be laid before Parliament.

Air Travel Reserve Fund Act now in effect

The Air Travel Reserve Fund Act – which gives added financial protection to people who make overseas air travel bookings – is now in effect.

Basically, the Act:

Sets up the Air Travel Reserve Fund, from which payments can be made to certain customers of licensed air travel organisers in the event of their financial failure;

Requires licensed air travel organisers to make contributions to the Fund;

Provides for Government loans to the Fund to help get it off to a good start;

Enables payments to be made to people who lost their holidays last year due to the financial collapse of certain air travel organisers; and

Sets up the Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency to hold and manage the Fund's assets.

Members of the Agency will be appointed by the Secretary of State of Trade after consultation with the Civil Aviation Authority and will include members from the travel trade.

An announcement about the Chairman of the Agency – he will be independent of the CAA, the travel trade and the Department of Trade – and the other six members, will be made shortly.

The Act provides for Government loans to the Fund up to a total of £15 million. A first payment will be made to the Agency as soon as it is needed.

Regulations will shortly be laid before Parliament – they will require the approval of both Houses – requiring holders of air travel organisers' licences to make contributions to the Fund.

The bonding arrangements of air travel organisers are not affected by the Act. These arrangements remain the principal means of protection against the financial failure of an air travel organiser. The Act provides a strong second line of defence.

In April the Civil Aviation Authority increased the level of bonds to 10 per cent for members of the Association of British Travel Agents, and 15 per cent for other air travel organisers.

Eric Deakin's statement

Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, made the following statement on 23 May:

'The Air Travel Reserve Fund Act received Royal Assent yesterday. It is now in effect. This is a big step towards sorting out the problems left by the financial collapse of a number of air travel organisers last summer.

'I have one piece of advice to the people who lost money then, and who are, quite naturally, anxious to know when they will get their money back. My advice is: consult your travel agent – now. He will know who holds the money you paid to him last year. Some of it is held by liquidators: some of it is held by travel agents.

'Claims for money held by the liquidators will be paid as soon as possible. The situation in respect of money held by travel agents is more complicated, and right now it is impossible to say, for legal reasons, exactly when payments will be made. But certainly I hope there will be no avoidable delay of any kind.

'In the case of Clarkson's, it is hoped to start sending out about 4,000 cheques in respect of direct bookings in three weeks' time. Provided there are no legal difficulties and customers return forms promptly it is expected that the Clarkson's bond money will be cleared by mid-July. After that the new Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency will take over the task of making payments.

'From next Tuesday the Clarkson's liquidators will be sending out proof of debt forms at the rate of 2,400 a day. Horizon liquidators have already sent out about 5,000 forms. I must stress that the speed with which payments can be made will depend very much on how quickly customers return their forms to the liquidators.

'Of course, the Act does more than provide financial redress for last year's events. We have created a new Air Travel Reserve Fund which will be started off by an interest-free Government loan. And the Fund can make payments to people who in the future may lose money as the result of the financial failure of a licensed air travel organiser. People taking holidays this summer will be covered.

'Subject to approval by Parliament of the necessary regulations, holders of air travel organisers' licences will be required to make contributions to the fund from 1 September 1975. The contributions will be equal to 1 per cent of their turnover in the period 1 September 1975 to 31 March 1976, and 2 per cent from April.

'It will be for each air travel organiser to decide how much of this he must pass on to the customer. But it must be worth paying that bit extra on the cost of, say, a package holiday, to make sure it is financially secure.'

Advice on claims for last year's lost holidays

Where money is available from the bonds which air travel organisers provided, this will be used first to make payments to those who lost their holidays last year. If a liquidator has been appointed he will usually collect claims for the holders of the bond money and for the Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency.

Before payments can be made, claims must be collected and checked. In most cases this is being done by the liquidators. Payments will be made as quickly as possible by the holders of the bond money or by the Agency as appropriate.

Some of the booking money paid to travel agents had not been passed on to the air travel organisers before they failed. Most of this money is still held by travel agents, because it is not yet known in law whether this money should be paid to customers or to the liquidators.

However, ABTA have recently put forward suggestions whereby the problem might be settled without resort to litigation and the inevitable consequential delays in payment. These suggestions are being urgently examined by the liquidator in consultation with ABTA and the Department, but a final decision cannot be made until the Agency is in operation and has itself examined the proposals.

Holidaymakers who lost money last year, are advised that if they made their bookings:

Through a travel agent with Clarkson Holidays Ltd., Halcyon Holidays Ltd., Apal Travel Ltd., Kentways Travel Ltd., Airfair Ltd., Tabberer Ltd., or 'Western Jet' to *check* that the travel agent has sent details of their claim to the liquidator of the appropriate company. Otherwise details should be sent direct to the liquidator, who will keep in touch with the claimant, either direct or through the travel agent.

Direct with Clarksons Holiday, Halcyon Holidays, Apal Travel, or Kentways Travel, to *contact* the *liquidator* and await further advice from him.

Direct with Airfair, Tabberer, or 'Western Jet', and did not actually make a flight booked through those companies, to *contact* the *liquidator* and await further advice from him.

Direct with the above mentioned companies, and did make a flight after paying an additional charge, to send details to the *Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency*, set up under the Act, and await further advice from the Agency.

The names and addresses of liquidators of companies which failed last year is given below and on page 508.

Liquidators

Clarksons Holidays Ltd.,
Mr. G. Sneath, Liquidator,
Clarksons Holidays Ltd.,
Claims Department,
17-29 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PU

Halcyon Holidays Ltd.,
Mr. A. F. Jones, Liquidator,
Halcyon Holidays Ltd.,
Claims Department,
17-29 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PU

Airfair Ltd.,
Mr. R. V. J. Chadder,
Peat Marwick Mitchell and Co.,
11 Ironmonger Lane, London EC2P 2AR

Apal Travel Ltd.,
Mr. F. Stansil,
Hacker Phillips Rubins and Young,
St. Alphage House,
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DA

Kentways Ltd.,
Mr. R. N. Millar
Clapton Millar and Thoroughgood,
23B High Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2NL

Tabberer Travel Ltd.,
Mr. F. Johnson,
Johnson Murkett and Hurst,
Rawdon House,
Rawdon Terrace,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leics LE6 5GN

'Western Jet',
(Columbia Air Charter and Tour Brokers Ltd.),
Mr. Sidney Chater,
Poppleton and Appleby,
23 Cathedral Road,
Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF1 9XE

Other addresses
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA),
129 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NN

Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA)
53 Norman Street, London W1P 4AH

Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency,
PO Box 165, London SW1P 3DB

Two more Government factories in North West

Work has started on two more advance factories for the Department of Industry in North West England.

A unit of 900 m² (10,000 sq. ft.), designed by English Industrial Estates Corporation staff, is being built on the Lamberhead Industrial Estate, Wigan, Greater Manchester. The contract for building this factory has been awarded to F. and F. S. White, of Newton-le-Willows; architects for the project are Associated Design Consultants, of Liverpool, and the quantity surveyors are Youden Briggs Partnership, of Liverpool.

The other unit, also of 900 m², is being built at Edward Street, Nelson, Lancs. Builders are Connolly Brothers (Builders) Ltd., of Rawtenstall; architects for the project are again Associated Design Consultants of Liverpool, and the quantity surveyors are E. C. Harris and Partners.

The premises should be ready for occupation by early 1976.

Applications for investment grant

The Department of Industry has accepted since 1 April 1975 applications for investment grant in respect of capital expenditure incurred in the period 1 October to 31 December 1974. Such applications have been payable from 1 April 1975.

The Department now announces that applications in respect of the following quarter 1 January to 31 March 1975 will be accepted from 1 July 1975 and that payment on such applications, after approval, will begin from that date.

Investment grant is payable on expenditure incurred after 26 October 1970 only where it arises under a contract entered into by that date. Applications should be made to the Department on the appropriate form, accompanied by form IG/32 (or form IG/33 for ships) and relevant evidence of contract.

Closing dates

The Department reminds applicants that, by virtue of the Investment Grants Termination (No. 4) Order 1974 and of the Direction made under it on 6 May 1974, no investment grant will be made in respect of expenditure incurred in the period 1 October to 31 December 1973 unless application on the appropriate form and accompanied by a report by an independent accountant is made to the Department of Industry before 1 July 1975. Applicants should ensure that they have duly completed the appropriate form and forwarded it to the reporting accountant in sufficient time to enable him to examine and report on it and for the documents to be received by one of the Grants Offices not later than 30 June 1975.

Applications relating to expenditure incurred during the following periods should be made by the dates specified:

Expenditure incurred	Date before which application must be made
1 January 1974-31 March 1974	1 October 1975

By virtue of the Investment Grants Termination (No. 5) Order 1975 and of the Direction made under it on 17 February 1975 applications relating to expenditure incurred during the following periods should be made by the dates specified:

Expenditure incurred	Date before which application must be made
1 April 1974-30 June 1974	1 January 1976
1 July 1974-30 September 1974	1 April 1976
1 October 1974-31 December 1974	1 July 1976
1 January 1975-31 March 1975	1 October 1976

Firms contemplating applying for investment grants towards expenditure incurred on the production of prototypes must also comply with all the requirements as to the making of applications by specified terminal dates. Special considerations may affect this type of application and if firms foresee difficulty in meeting these requirements they should seek guidance from the appropriate office.

Guidance on the preparation of forms may be obtained from the appropriate Office. The addresses of the Offices are: Department of Industry, Regional Development Grants Office,

Queensway House,
West Precinct,
Town Centre,
Billingham,
Cleveland TS23 2NF
Tel. (0642) 553671
Telex 58608

St. Peter's House,
Stanley Precinct,
Bootle,
Merseyside L20 3LZ
Tel. 051-922 4030
Telex 627162

24/26 Newport Road,
Cardiff CF2 1SY
Tel. (0222) 42611
Telex 49538

Magnet House,
Waterloo Street,
Glasgow G2 7BT
Tel. 041-221 9833
Telex 77611

and (for ships and computers only)

Department of Industry,
Investment Grants Office,
Colman House,
Victoria Avenue,
Southend-on-Sea SS2 6DU
Tel. (0702) 41341 and 41362
Telex 99288.

King & Co
Chartered Surveyors
1 Snow Hill, London, EC1
Telephone 01-236 3000 Telex 885485
Manchester · Leeds · Brussels

Industrial and commercial property

Free leaflet on Consumer Credit Act

The first general guidance on the Consumer Credit Act, 1974, intended for both shopper and shopkeeper, has been published by the Office of Fair Trading. This leaflet, called 'The Consumer Credit Act – what every shopper should know, what every trader *must* know', highlights the main points of the Act as it applies on both sides of the counter, and tells people how to obtain further information.

The leaflet makes it clear that, when Regulations under the Act come into effect, the businessman involved in credit or hire transactions to consumers will probably need a licence. Licenses will be needed by, among others, banks, finance houses, mortgage brokers, credit reference agencies, debt collectors and many shopkeepers.

The leaflet also informs shoppers of the increased protection they will have when they obtain credit or hire. Advertisements will have to comply with Regulations to be made by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection and will have to show, among other things, the total rate of charge for credit.

The leaflet is available, free, from Trading Standards Offices, Citizens' Advice Bureaux, and Consumer Advice Centres.

Price Commission interventions during April

The following should be added to the list of Price Commission interventions during April published in *Trade and Industry* of 23 May 1975.

Modifications

Company	Prodvct	% increase sought	% reduction made (percentage points)
Category II			
Drayton Controls (Engineering) Ltd.	Process control instrumentation, pneumatic and electrical actuators, valves and domestic central heating controls	8.25	1.27
Educational Supply Association Ltd.	Laminated chair-upholstered seat and back	39.70	0.64
	Laminated chair-plywood seat and back	55.07	0.72
	Laminated table	11.18	0.36
	Locker desk	6.52	0.24
	Single pedestal desk	9.62	0.39
	Locker unit	9.81	0.39
	Wood table	6.05	0.34
	Cupboard	12.58	0.38
	Tubular chair	19.44	0.39
	Tubular table	21.98	0.25
F. J. Edwards Ltd.	Guillotines, description folders, bending rollers, etc. (used for forming sheet metal)	25.40	0.75
Fascut Products Ltd.	Fascut reinforced grinding wheels	13.25	4.50
GAF (GB) Ltd.	Polyester film	18.16	0.005
Gillette Industries Ltd.	Disposable plastic bags and food wraps	8.22	1.18
Gravity-Randall Ltd.	Timber and aluminium ladders, metal wheelbarrows and associated parts	20.00	9.89
James Halstead Ltd.	PVC flooring, unsupported PVC sheetings and extrusions	5.01	0.24
T. S. Harrison and Sons Ltd.	Centre lathes, milling machines, wood turning lathes, and grinders	27.32	0.31
Hostess Furniture Ltd.	Whole range of furniture goods	10.60	1.03
Ideal Standard Ltd.	Road haulage	1.20	0.04
Inmont Ltd.	High efficiency thinners	16.31	2.72
Johnson and Johnson Ltd., Professional Products Division	All products for the Division	11.94	0.03
William Lee Malleable Ltd.	Malleable iron castings (medium and large)	14.96	1.64
Littlejohn Graphic Systems Ltd.	Printing machines	13.77	1.77
Link 51 Ltd.	Steel and storage equipment	9.76	0.84
	Slotted angle products (metal)	14.46	2.01
F. H. Lloyd and Co. Ltd.	Steel castings	11.83	0.15
The Mettoy Co. Ltd.	Corgi toys	1.44	0.07
National Car Parks Ltd.	Car parking tariffs	19.10	1.59
L. Oertling Ltd.	Analytical balance (including service and repair)	4.16	0.39
The Prestige Group Ltd.	Metal domestic housewares	8.72	1.43
Richardson-Merrell Ltd.	Vick vapour rub, Sinex inhaler, etc., Clearasil soap, etc., Milton sterilising fluid, Napisan	3.00 to 18.37	1.58 to 4.17
Ripaults Ltd.	Electrical cable and automobile accessories	6.90	1.64
Robinson Willey Ltd.	Gas fires (radiant convector type) and associated spares	5.00	0.20
The Rubber Regenerating Co. Ltd.	Anti-oxidants and stabilisers	5.49	0.68
Service Domestic Appliances Ltd.	Service and maintenance of electrical domestic appliances	25.22	0.34
Sketchley Ltd.	Dry cleaning and tailor repair services	10.07	0.97
Smith and Nephew Plastic Ltd.	Non-woven plastic net	9.97	0.01
Smiths Food Group Ltd., Snakpak Food Products Division	Nuts	10.02	3.28
Spanboard Ltd.	Wood chipboard	12.17	1.23
The Steetly Co. Ltd.	Lycal grades of chemical magnesia	10.33	0.11
	Pelletised grades of refractory magnesia	10.93	0.11
	Grain and powder products of refractory magnesia	11.05	0.01
Stephenson Newspapers Ltd.	Selected advertising rates	9.35	0.23
Sterling Health Products Ltd.	Hedex	3.11	0.13
Teleflex Morse Division of Rockwell International (USA) Ltd.	Mechanical remote controls	29.50	1.93
3M UK Ltd.	Adhesive coating and sealer products	6.30	0.04
United Kingdom Optical Co. Ltd.	Fused biofocals	9.06	0.60
Wallington Weston and Co. Ltd.	Consort flooring tiles, Format, Sportsflor, Stageflor, folding doors, plastic sheeting, cores	6.60	0.03
Wellman Incanite Foundries Ltd.	High duty ferrous castings	11.65	0.05
West Cheshire Newspapers Ltd.	Advertisement rates	16.89	0.47
Whyte and MacKay Ltd.	Bottled scotch whisky	15.86	3.71
Willeys of Exeter Ltd.	Iron and non-ferrous castings	11.89	0.64
Thomas Witters and Co. Ltd.	'Balatum' printed feltbase floor-covering	19.41	2.69
Worthington-Simpson Ltd.	Pumps, compressors and related equipment	3.54	1.05
Yorkshire Chemicals Ltd.	Hardeners, fillers, primers	17.32	3.97

Company	Product	% increase sought	% reduction made (percentage points)
			% reduction made

Revision of Mole Valley departure route from Heathrow

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, has announced that the Government had decided to split, on a trial basis, the Mole Valley departure route from Heathrow over the stage covered shortly after take-off.

Answering a Parliamentary Question on 21 May from Mr. Neville Sandelson, MP (Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington), Mr. Clinton Davis said:

'Following upon consultation with hon. Members, with the Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee, local authorities and others closely concerned, and taking into account the differing proposals made by them, it is the intention to bring into operation, on a carefully monitored experimental basis, with effect from 19 June 1975, a new routeing devised in conjunction with the Civil Aviation Authority.

'Instead of following the single Mole Valley route as at present, traffic will, over part of the route between take-off and the beacon at Ockham, be split between two routes, one to the west and the other to the east of the existing one.

'Letters explaining what is intended will be sent to all who have been involved in consultation.'

Notes

The Mole Valley Route at present runs south-east over Hounslow Heath, parts of Twickenham and Hampton, turns south-west over Bushy Park, the Molesey area, and on to the beacon at Ockham.

A change in the route was made in July 1972 to reduce disturbance over parts of Twickenham. But although this brought some relief to Twickenham, it increased disturbance to other areas, causing widespread protest.

The independent Noise Advisory Council was asked by the Department of Trade to make a further study of departure routeing, including the Mole Valley problem. The report of the Council's working group, issued last year, generally supported concentrating outbound traffic on a small number of routes, but accepted the case for considering a split in the route.

After detailed study, in conjunction with the Civil Aviation Authority, the Department circulated proposals for splitting the route in a consultation document sent to Members of Parliament, local authorities, the Heathrow Consultative Committee, and amenity groups, seeking their comments.

A number of different proposals was then evaluated by the Department and the CAA, and ten of them formed a further consultation document.

These proposals were discussed at a public meeting held at the Department of Trade under the chairmanship of Mr. Clinton Davis. There was no unanimous acceptance of any single proposal, but the general consensus favoured as wide a split in the route as possible. Mr. Clinton Davis undertook to review the problem in the light of discussion; the aim would be to bring a revised routeing into operation on a trial basis within about two months.

Increase in complaints to Airline Users Committee

Complaints received by the Airline Users Committee in the six months 1 October 1974-31 March 1975 totalled 235, compared with 181 for the whole of the previous 12 months.

The number of complaints received is still small in relation to the volume of air travel, but the large proportionate increase indicates a growing awareness of the existence of the Committee.

An analysis of the complaints dealt with in the three months 1 October-31 December 1974 shows that, of the 126 compaints received, roughly half were against airlines and half against air travel organisers. The biggest areas of complaint concerned flight arrangements (such as changes, cancellations or delays) and tickets (such as late receipt).

The Committee intends to continue publishing an analysis of complaints received in each quarter, and will publish a fuller analysis in its next annual report.

MFV 'Wyre Majestic' – Formal Investigation

The public Formal Investigation into the circumstances surrounding the stranding of the MFV *Wyre Majestic* will open at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 16 June 1975, in the Council Chamber, the Council Offices, High Street, Garstang, Preston.

The Wreck Commissioner will be Mr. Richard Stone, QC.

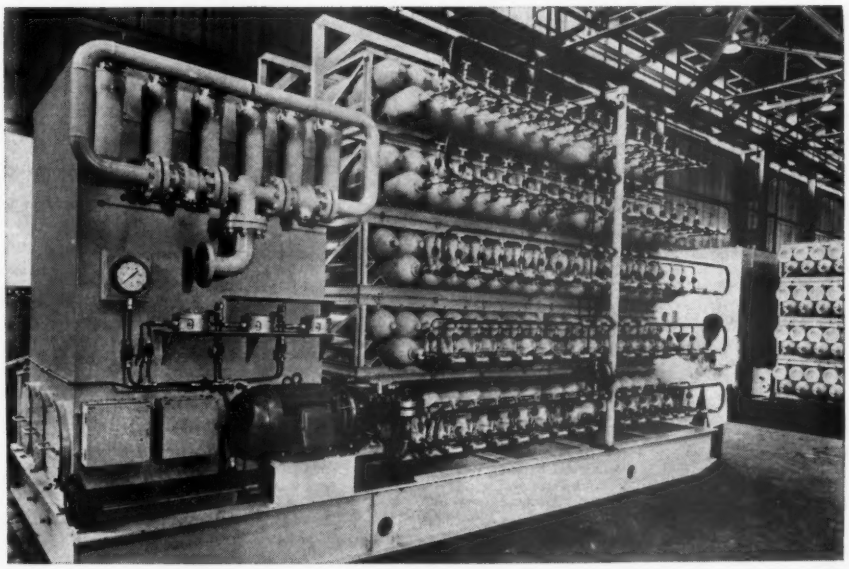
Bryanston Finance Ltd.

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has appointed Michael John Mustill, QC, MA, under the provisions of Section 164 of the Companies Act, 1948, to act as an Inspector with John Oliver Robertson Darby, chartered accountant, to investigate the affairs of Bryanston Finance Ltd., in place of Cyril Lewis Hawser, QC, MA, who has withdrawn from his appointment.

The announcement of the appointment of Mr. C. L. Hawser and Mr. J. O. R. Darby was given in *Trade and Industry* of 16 May 1975 (page 386).

Bread prices

In a news item on permitted price increases for bread which appeared on page 343 of *Trade and Industry*, 9 May 1975, it was stated that an increase of 1p had been allowed in the case of 28 oz. cholla and 42 oz. loaves: this should have read an increase of 1½p.



Hydraulic power unit for the operation of emergency shut-down of offshore gas pipeline valves. The unit, manufactured by Hydraulics and Pneumatics Ltd., Wolverhampton, is for the Total-Frigg field. Four similar sets are being exported for operation on platforms in the Norwegian and German sectors of the North Sea. The company has a long history of supplying hydraulic control equipment to the marine industry, particularly for oil tankers and in the last two years has entered the offshore industry.

Launch at the Lowestoft shipyard of Brooke Marine Ltd. of the MV *Fraser Salvator*, the first of two vessels being built for a joint venture of British and Norwegian shipowners. The *Fraser Salvator* is an oil rig supply/anchor handling/training vessel.

Energy saving seminar

Instruments and control systems can be used for maintaining and improving product quality in the process industries. This usually results in increased profitability both by cost reduction and improved quality.

A seminar sponsored jointly by Sira and the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service Ltd. (NIFES) will show how these benefits can be realised, to be held on Wednesday 24 September 1975 at The City University, London.

Any company irrespective of size could make savings in its energy consumption through effective instrumentation. The first stage is an 'energy audit' in which instruments measure 'how much' and 'how efficiently' energy is used. The second stage is the installation of measurement and control equipment on plant to improve energy utilization during production.

Further information and registration forms may be obtained from Mrs. R. Keiller, Sira Institute Ltd., South Hill, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 5EH.

North Sea gas-gathering pipeline study

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, has announced his intention to commission a study of the feasibility of bringing ashore associated gas from oilfields in the United Kingdom sector of the North Sea.

James Craigen, (Glasgow Maryhill), asked the Secretary of State in a written Parliamentary Question on 20 May, what steps he was taking to prevent the waste of gas at those oilfields, where the amount of gas produced in association with the oil might be insufficient to justify a separate pipeline to the shore.

In his reply, Mr. Varley said: 'Before consenting to any flaring I should need to be fully satisfied that there is no economically viable alternative. For this reason I intend to commission an independent feasibility study to evaluate the relative economics of alternative ways of bringing the associated gas ashore, possibly through a gas-gathering pipeline. I have invited the licensees in the UK sector of the North Sea to co-operate in such a study.'

The Government has approached five organisations – Texas Eastern UK Ltd., P. and O. Energy Ltd., RTZ Oil and Gas Ltd., Williams/Merz and R. J. Brown and Associates – asking them to consider submitting competitive tenders for carrying out the study announced by Mr. Varley.

Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations: temporary exemptions

The continued sale of spare parts for certain older types of electrical equipment will not be affected by the new safety regulations, Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has announced.

Mr. Williams was answering two Parliamentary questions on 22 May concerning safety requirements for household appliances made to earlier standards.

He replied to Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock): 'The proposed regulations will contain an exemption in respect of component parts intended for use in the repair of equipment sold by retail prior to the coming into force of the relevant safety requirements. In any other case, it will be an offence under the Consumer Protection Act 1961 to sell or offer for sale any component part which, when embodied in the equipment for which it is intended, causes the equipment to fail to comply with the requirements.'

And to Mrs. Helene Hayman (Welwyn and Hatfield): 'The requirements in the regulations relating to double-insulation will not apply to flat twin or "figure eight" cords on lighting fittings until 1 July 1976 in the case of fittings sold by manufacturers and importers and 1 July 1977 for those sold by wholesalers and retailers, provided that the insulation is not less than 0.8 mm. thick.'

Many domestic electrical appliances now in use were made to standards that have since been superseded or amended. It does not follow that they are in any way unsafe and it is important that spare parts should continue to be available to keep them in good working order. It has therefore been considered appropriate to make suitable provision in the regulations to put it beyond doubt that the sale of components to service them does not constitute an offence under the Consumer Protection Act 1961.

The proposed regulations, announced on 13 May, will prescribe general safety requirements applying to all electrical equipment designed or suitable for domestic use (whether indoors or out-of-doors) offered for sale in Great Britain. They require equipment coming within their scope to be earthed or double-insulated. Many double-insulated lighting fittings are fitted with 'figure eight' flexible cords, which have only a single layer of insulation. It is considered reasonable to allow the continued sale of these fittings for a limited period provided that the cords are of a good standard.

The regulations specify the following operative dates, in addition to those referred to above for 'figure eight' cords on lighting fittings:

i Retailers and wholesalers will be allowed a transitional period until 1 January 1976 to sell washing machines and spin dryers made in accordance with the less stringent interlocking provisions in British Standard 3456: Section 2.12, as originally published in 1970, without contravening the mechanical safety requirement in the regulations.

ii Subject to certain specified exemptions, the regulations will provide that live parts should not be accessible without the use of tools. Bayonet lampholders that are incorporated in lighting fittings and that do not meet this requirement but comply with British Standard 52 will be allowed until 1 July 1976 in respect of sales by manufacturers and importers and 1 July 1977 in respect of sales by wholesalers and retailers. These dates will also apply to switched lampholders made to British Standard 52 sold separately.

iii The exemptions referred to in ii above include unswitched bayonet lampholders sold separately, ceiling roses, ceiling switches designed to be operated by a cord, fixed wiring junction boxes and 'pear' switches.

iv The proposed regulations require the switch incorporated in any heating appliance with accessible elements to be double-pole (to ensure that the elements are not live when the heater is switched off). This requirement comes into force on 1 March 1976 for sales by manufacturers and importers and 1 September 1976 for sales by wholesalers and retailers.

All other requirements imposed by the regulations come into operation on 1 September 1975 for all equipment coming within their scope and for all sections of the trade.

Technology News

Department of Industry orders Decca ship simulator

A contract worth over £250,000 has been placed with the Hersham Division of Decca Radar Ltd. by the Department of Industry for the provision of a comprehensive ship simulator suitable for the training of bridge teams including ship's officers, pilots and helmsmen. It will be the first of its kind in the UK and includes features which are not to be found in any other ship simulator in the world.

The simulator is capable of providing anti-collision, navigation, pilotage and ship-handling exercises for ships between 500 tonnes and 500,000 tonnes, with the vessel responding correctly to wheel and throttle, and including the effects of tidal stream and depth of water under the keel. The manoeuvring behaviour of the vessel is governed by a computer mathematical model developed jointly by the National Physical Laboratory Ship Division and by Decca. Incorporated are a wheelhouse with a bridge control console including wheel and auto-pilot, engine throttle, anti-collision radar, ship's telephone, radio communications, warning annunciators and chart table.

A major innovation is a bridge window through which can be seen the bows of the ship, lights of navigation marks and lights of other ships. Up to 16 lights can be shown at one time, for example eight buoys and two other ships. The lights move with the correct perspective as own ship and the other ships move, and are properly correlated with the echoes on the radar display. Mounted above the bridge window are instruments, including heading repeater, log, rate of turn indicator, engine revolutions and clock. Engine and propeller noises and vibration are generated, varying correctly with engine revolutions.

The simulator may be programmed for real or artificial exercise areas, which can be changed in a few minutes by inserting different magnetic tape casssettes. Each exercise is automatically recorded on a track plot for subsequent analysis, together with recordings of rpm, ship speed, rudder angle, rate of turn, drift angle and heading.

The complete simulator is built into two 36-ft. Portakabins, one containing the wheelhouse, equipment room and Captain's day cabin and the other housing the bridge window projection system and screen. The general design is based on extensive trials with experienced masters and pilots, and provides a high degree of realism.

Open days at Transport and Road Research Laboratory

The Department of the Environment's Transport and Road Research Laboratory is holding open days from 11-15 June this year, when the exhibition will adopt 20 broad themes to illustrate highway engineering, traffic and safety, transport systems and operations and work overseas. Open days were last held at the Laboratory in 1971.

Admission to the open days will be by ticket only. People with a professional interest will be admitted on the three days 11-13 June, while admittance to the general public will be available, although still by pre-requested ticket, on the other two days, 14-15 June. Members of the Laboratory staff will be in attendance throughout the whole period.

The exhibits will be displayed under the following themes: bridges and elevated highways, road pavement design, construction underground, materials for non-skid roads, transport planning, freight transport, operation of public transport, earthworks design and construction, management of construction and maintenance, technical aid for developing countries.

For tickets apply to: Transport and Road Research Laboratory, Old Wokingham Road, Crowthorne, Berks RG11 6AU (tel. Crowthorne 3131).

Conservation of materials conference

The South Wales Institute of Engineers, in association with the British National Committee on Materials, is holding a three-day conference on 'The Conservation of Materials' from 30 June-2 July 1975 at the Sherman Theatre of University College, Cardiff.

Papers on various aspects on the wide-ranging subject will be presented by 12 speakers, and Philip B. Hunt, Director of the Department of Industry's Office for Wales will be among those chairing the five separate sessions.

A conference dinner will be held on the evening of 1 July.

Further information: Mrs. A. D. Griffiths, Conference Secretary, Production Control Centre, Farm Road, Aberaman, nr. Aberdare, Mid-Glam. (tel. Aberdare 3582/3689).

Science Research Council to control Synchrotron Radiation Source

A Synchrotron Radiation Source is to be built at the Daresbury Laboratory of the Science Research Council at an estimated capital cost of £3 million at mid-1974 prices, including the equipment for the first three beam lines.

It is expected that this major scientific facility will be ready for the first experiments on completion of its construction in about four years' time, and the construction programme has been arranged so that work involving the Laboratory's 5-GeV electron accelerator known as NINA is not seriously affected.

The Daresbury Synchrotron Radiation Source will combine the advantages of being the first of its kind designed and built solely in order to provide synchrotron radiation, with basic parameters which are at least comparable with those of the largest electron storage rings built for high energy physics: in practice the requirements of high energy physics are likely to limit the performance of these machines for synchrotron radiation below that of the SRS. For example the use of colliding beams of electrons and positrons limits the electron current and hence the intensity of synchrotron radiation.

It is expected that the volume of activity will continuously increase and the ring has been designed with ten ports for beam lines, each of which can serve several experiments.

The decision of the Science Research Council late in 1972 to terminate the high energy physics programme on the NINA accelerator within about five years has given extra urgency to the project. A panel set up at that time recommended the construction of an electron storage ring to replace NINA as a source of synchrotron radiation.

A detailed design study completed at the Laboratory last year resulted in the acceptance of a proposal by the SRC, and the expenditure has now been authorised by Government.

The project has arisen from the realisation of the scientific potentialities of such a source among users of the existing Synchrotron Radiation Facility on the NINA Accelerator. Use of the Synchrotron Radiation Facility is near saturation, with nine sets of apparatus on two beam lines and over 40 scientists using the facility, including the physics departments of the universities of Manchester, Reading, Cambridge, Oxford, Warwick, Leicester, Ulster and Bristol, as well as the metallurgy department of the University of Strathclyde, the chemistry department of the University of Leicester, the National Physical Laboratory and the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge.

The availability of the new source of synchrotron radiation should result in a considerable increase in scientific interest in more universities and institutes as well as benefits of physics being brought into other subjects.

Parliament

Monday, 19 May

EEC regional policy

Mr. Robert Woof (Blaydon) inquired about the cost of resources devoted to regional development in the European Economic Community; the amount supplemented by assistance from Community funds; and the amount to be allocated to the United Kingdom.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'There are no relevant statistics for the Community as a whole. The European Investment Bank, the European Coal and Steel Community, the Guidance Section of the Agriculture Fund, the Social Fund, and in future also the Regional Development Fund, provide Community assistance. Only the Regional Development Fund, from which up to £150 million will be available to the UK during the three years 1975-77, allocates specific sums in advance to the individual Member States.'

Investment in the engineering industry

Mr. John Biffen (Oswestry) asked for a statement on current and expected levels of investment in the engineering industry.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'Capital expenditure by the engineering, shipbuilding and metal goods group of industries was £798 million in 1974, representing an increase in volume of 12 per cent on 1973. The investment intentions inquiry carried out in November/December 1974, results of which were published in *Trade and Industry* on 30 January, indicated a significant fall in 1975. A more up-to-date assessment will be available when the results of the next investment intentions inquiry are published on 9 June.'

Capital receipts of BSC

Mr. Timothy Sainsbury (Hove) asked how much of the capital receipts of the British Steel Corporation for 1974-75 arises from the sale of land.

'Receipts from the sale of land and buildings in 1974-75 are provisionally estimated to be nearly £2 million,' said Mr. Meacher.

Hosiery and knitted textiles

Mr. Jim Marshall (Leicester South) asked for information on the estimated under-usage of capacity in the hosiery and knitting textile sector in the East Midlands.

'Figures supplied by the industry suggest that 70 per cent of firms are working below full capacity,' said Mr. Meacher.

Mr. Marshall also wanted to know the level of import penetration as a percentage of domestic sales in each quarter of 1973, each quarter of 1974 and the first quarter of 1975, by value and by volume, in the hosiery and knitted sector of the textile industry in the East Midlands.

Mr. Meacher said that figures relating to the part of the hosiery and other knitted goods industry located in the East Midlands were not available, but gave the following estimated import penetration for the whole of the UK industry in terms of value:

Per cent

1973				1974				1975
1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
27	24	29	26	34	26	28	22	n.a.

'It is not possible to estimate the proportion in terms of quantity because of the different types of garments involved,' said Mr. Meacher.

Woollen and worsted goods

Mr. Max Madden (Sowerby) inquired about the level of capacity being achieved in the woollen and worsted (spinning and weaving) textile sector.

Mr. Meacher told him that there are no official statistics of the level of capacity achieved in the woollen and worsted textile sector. In February the industry estimated that the level of capacity being achieved in the wool textile industry was 75 per cent.

Figures were asked for by Mr. Madden showing the level of import penetration, as a percentage of domestic sales, by volume and by value, in each quarter of 1973, each quarter of 1974, and the first quarter of 1975, in the woollen and worsted (spinning and weaving) textile sector.

Mr. Meacher said that the estimated import penetration in terms of quantity was:

Per cent

	1973 1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1974 1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1975 1st qtr.
Woollen and worsted yarns	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Woollen and worsted cloth	9	11	8	7	9	9	9	9	8

Corresponding figures of import penetration in terms of value are not available.

Mr. Madden also asked for information on the level of home production in each quarter of 1973, each quarter of 1974 and the first quarter of 1975, by volume and value in the woollen and worsted (spinning and weaving) textile sector.

Mr. Meacher said that the production of yarns spun on the woollen system and the deliveries of yarns spun on the worsted system was:

Million Kg.

1973				1974				1975
1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
64.7	58.1	51.6	60.9	50.9	60.3	48.6	50.6	49.7

Deliveries of woollen and worsted woven cloth by the woollen and worsted industry were:

Million sq. m

1973				1974				1975
1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
49	49	43	50	43	47	42	42	38

Source: Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics.

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Minister of State: Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection:
Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

'Corresponding value figures for the production and delivery data given above are not available,' said Mr. Meacher.

'The value and quantity of sales of yarn and woven cloth by the UK woollen and worsted industry are given in Business Monitor PQ 414.'

Man-made fibres continuous filament yarns

Mr. Doug Hoyle (Nelson and Colne) asked for an estimate of the under usage of capacity in the man-made fibres continuous filament yarns textile sector and for information on the levels of home production and import penetration of these products.

Mr. Meacher replied that there are no official statistics of the under-utilisation of capacity in the man-made fibres continuous filament yarns sector. In February the industry estimated that the under-utilisation of capacity in the production of both man-made staple fibres and man-made fibres continuous filament yarns was up to 30 per cent.

The production of man-made continuous filament yarns was:

Million kg.

1973				1974				1975
1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
82.4	81.8	71.1	78.3	72.7	71.9	59.4	55.4	58.1

Source: Man-made Fibre Producers Committee.
Corresponding figures of production in terms of value are not available. The value and quantity of sales of continuous filament yarn (excluding textured yarns) are given in Business Monitor PQ 411.

Mr. Meacher said that the estimated import penetration in terms of quantity was:

Per cent

1973				1974				1975
1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
27	29	31	32	33	39	45	39	33

Corresponding figures of import penetration in terms of value are not available.

Cotton and man-made fibres

Questions were asked by Mr. Frank R. White (Bury and Radcliffe) and Mr. Mike Noble (Rossendale) on the under-usage of capacity, the level of home production and the level of import penetration in the Lancashire cotton, man-made fibre, spinning and weaving textile sectors.

Mr. Meacher answered that there are no official statistics of the under-utilisation of capacity in the Lancashire cotton and man-made fibre spinning and weaving industries. In February the industry estimated that the under-utilisation of capacity in spinning was at least 20 per cent, and in weaving was at least 15 per cent.

The production of cotton and spun man-made fibre yarns by the cotton and allied textile industry was:

Per cent

	1973				1974				1975
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
Cotton yarns	14	12	15	17	29	24	26	23	21
Spun man-made fibre and mixture yarns	14	15	17	15	23	24	27	25	21
Cotton cloth	59	51	61	57	68	51	53	44	50
Man-made fibre and mixture cloth	40	39	41	40	49	38	43	39	40

Corresponding figures of import penetration in terms of value are not available.

The production of woven cotton and man-made fibre cloth by the cotton and allied textiles industry was:

Million sq. m.

	1973				1974				1975
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
Cotton cloth	144	137	108	126	105	123	99	126	121
Man-made fibre and mixture cloth	175	172	150	176	144	187	163	183	174

Source: Textile Statistics Bureau.
Corresponding figures of the value of production are not available. The value and quantity of sales of cotton and man-made fibre cloth are given in Business Monitor PQ 413.

Estimated import penetration in terms of quantity was:

Million kg.

	1973				1974				1975
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
Cotton yarn	32.9	29.6	25.5	27.4	23.3	27.6	24.1	26.3	23.1
Spun man-made fibre and mixture yarn	23.4	23.9	20.2	24.5	20.5	25.3	21.4	20.5	19.6

Source: Textile Statistics Bureau.
Corresponding figures of the value of production are not available.

Textile exports and imports

Questions were asked by Mr. David Young (Bolton East), Mr. Noble, Mr. White, Mr. Madden, Mr. Hoyle and Mr. Marshall on the export and import of various sectors of the textile industry.

Mr. Deakins, using statistics of trade for the United Kingdom as a whole and relating to commodity groups, gave the following country percentage distribution (by value) for 1974:

Commodity sectors	SITC(R) heading	Imports: Countries	Imports: Percentage distribution (by value)	Exports: Countries	Exports: Percentage distribution (by value)
Woven fabrics: cotton	652	India	14.8	Irish Republic	8.8
		Hong Kong	14.8	South Africa	7.9
		USA	9.0	Zaire	6.4
		Pakistan	8.1	Sweden	6.3
		Irish Republic	5.6	New Zealand	5.5
		Portugal	5.3	Australia	5.2
		Switzerland	4.9	USA	4.6
		China	4.6	Portugal	4.5
		Belgium and Luxembourg	4.4	France	3.7
		Netherlands	4.2	Finland	3.4
		Federal Republic of Germany	4.1	Belgium and Luxembourg	3.3
		France	3.1	Federal Republic of Germany	3.2
		Other countries	17.1	Other countries	37.2
man-made fibres	653.5 and 653.6	USA	16.2	Irish Republic	10.5
		Italy	12.2	Sweden	7.2
		Federal Republic of Germany	8.4	Denmark	5.7
		Austria	7.3	Finland	5.5
		Hong Kong	6.9	Switzerland	5.1
		Portugal	6.6	Federal Republic of Germany	4.7
		Belgium and Luxembourg	6.5	New Zealand	4.3
		Switzerland	5.8	Austria	3.7
		France	4.3	France	3.4
		Irish Republic	4.0	Australia	3.3
		Other countries	21.8	Norway	3.1
				South Africa	3.1
				Netherlands	2.5
				Other countries	37.9
Woollen and worsted (spinning and weaving)	651.2 and 653.2	Irish Republic	40.9	Japan	22.4
		Italy	29.0	Federal Republic of Germany	6.8
		France	4.9	USA	5.5
		Japan	3.6	Hong Kong	5.3
		Federal Republic of Germany	3.2	Itish Republic	4.9
		Switzerland	2.8	Canada	4.7
		Belgium and Luxembourg	2.4	France	3.9
		Portugal	2.4	Denmark	3.4
		India	1.3	Australia	3.4
		Other countries	9.5	Switzerland	2.7
				Italy	2.5
				Other countries	34.5

Commodity sectors	SITC(R) heading	Imports: Countries	Imports: Percentage distribution	Exports: Countries	Exports: Percentage distribution
			(by value)		(by value)
Spinning sector: cotton	651.3 and 651.4	Portugal	18.1	Finland	12.9
		Hong Kong	10.2	Irish Republic	10.3
		Turkey	9.8	Sweden	9.8
		Greece	7.9	Australia	8.5
		Switzerland	7.3	France	7.1
		Irish Republic	7.1	Denmark	6.1
		Spain	3.8	Federal Republic of Germany	5.8
		Netherlands	3.7	New Zealand	5.1
		Pakistan	3.7	Norway	4.8
		USA	3.6	South Africa	3.5
		Federal Republic of Germany	3.5	Canada	3.5
		Other countries	21.3	Other countries	22.6
man-made fibres	651.64 and 651.74	Irish Republic	29.8	Irish Republic	26.3
		Austria	17.1	Sweden	10.7
		Taiwan	9.3	Denmark	8.4
		Federal Republic of Germany	5.3	USSR	6.6
		Switzerland	5.0	Australia	5.4
		France	4.7	Canada	3.7
		Republic of Korea	4.4	France	3.7
		Italy	4.0	Norway	2.8
		Japan	2.3	Finland	2.6
		Other countries	18.1	Portugal	2.5
				Other countries	27.3
Non-knitted sector	652.0	USA	12.3	Japan	14.7
	653.2	Hong Kong	10.1	Irish Republic	6.6
	653.5	Italy	9.1	Sweden	4.9
	653.6	India	6.7	Federal Republic of Germany	4.7
		Federal Republic of Germany	6.3	USA	4.1
		Portugal	5.9	France	4.0
		Belgium and Luxembourg	5.4	Canada	3.7
		Irish Republic	5.3	Hong Kong	3.5
		Switzerland	5.2	Australia	3.5
		France	3.8	South Africa	3.4
		Pakistan	3.6	Finland	3.3
		Netherlands	3.0	New Zealand	3.2
		Other countries	23.3	Denmark	2.8
				Switzerland	2.6
				Belgium and Luxembourg	2.5
				Other countries	32.5
Man-made fibres continuous filament yarn	651.61	Federal Republic of Germany	28.0	Irish Republic	7.4
	651.63	Switzerland	13.5	Sweden	6.1
	651.71	USA	11.8	USSR	6.0
	651.73	Irish Republic	8.5	Portugal	5.7
		Italy	7.1	Federal Republic of Germany	5.1
		Austria	7.0	France	4.5
		Netherlands	5.4	Switzerland	4.1
		France	4.8	Finland	4.0
		Belgium and Luxembourg	3.5	South Africa	3.9
		Denmark	2.0	Denmark	3.6
		Japan	1.3	Austria	3.4
		Other countries	7.1	Netherlands	2.8
				USA	2.7
				Iran	2.6
				Belgium and Luxembourg	2.4
				Other countries	35.7
Hosiery and knitted goods	841.41 to 841.44			Irish Republic	12.2
				USA	10.3
				Switzerland	7.1
				Sweden	6.7
				France	5.9
				Canada	5.9
				Federal Republic of Germany	5.7
				Norway	5.1
				Denmark	5.0
				Australia	3.3
				Japan	2.6
				Kong Kong	2.4
				Other countries	27.8

undertook to increase their prices for exports to the EEC (including the United Kingdom) and as a result the investigation was terminated. The exporters have honoured their price undertakings.

'Following renewed representations by European spinners, including the British Worsted Spinners' Federation Ltd., at the end of 1974, the EEC Commission are reviewing the situation. Discussions are also taking place in Brussels on the negotiation, where justified under the GATT Multifibre Arrangement, of restraints on imports of acrylic and other synthetic yarns. The low prices currently prevailing have generally been above the levels agreed in 1973.'

Trade liberalisation

Mr. Woof asked to what extent there has been expansion and greater liberalisation of trade covering industrial and agricultural products since the United Kingdom entered the EEC.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'Between 1972 and 1974, our trade, including imports as well as exports, with the other Member States of the European Community in manufactured goods and food has increased by 97 to 117 per cent respectively, and with the rest of the world by 70 and 36 per cent.

'The main moves towards liberalisation of our trade with the Community have been the progressive reduction of tariffs between the new and the original Members of the Community, and the progress the Community is making towards the removal of technical barriers to trade. At the same time we have had to align our external tariff to that of the CCT, involving in the case of several Commonwealth countries an increase in UK tariffs. The main developments affecting the Community's trade with the rest of the world have been the conclusion of the GATT Article XXIV:6 negotiations, the signing of the Lomé Convention with 46 developing countries, and the agreement on the Community's Scheme of Generalised Preferences for 1975. In addition, a number of non-preferential trade agreements have been signed and others are being negotiated with various developing countries. Negotiations are currently in progress between the Community and certain Mediterranean countries which should lead to reductions in Community tariffs, and also in the forum of the GATT Multilateral Trade Negotiations, which should result in further liberalisation of world trade.'

Dumping of coated fabrics

Mr. Noble asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would take steps to end the dumping of knitted- and woven-backed coated fabrics in the UK by Portugal, Canada, East Germany, Hungary and the Irish Republic.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'My Department is always ready to consider an application under the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1969 if it contains reasonable prima facie evidence that the goods in question are dumped and that the dumping is causing or threatening material injury to the British industry.

'We are at present urgently considering with the Department of Industry representations received from the Leathercloth and Coated Fabrics Manufacturers' Association about low-cost imports of coated fabrics from a number of countries.'

EEC anti-dumping measures

Mr. Bob Cryer (Keighley) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade has yet received further information from the EEC Commissioners regarding the application from Interlaine, France, made in 1973, for anti-dumping measures by the EEC, and on the anti-dumping application by the West Riding Spinners Federation, which has been referred to the Commissioners.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'In the course of an investigation by the EEC Commission in 1973 into allegations by Interlaine, the European manufacturers' organisation, of dumping of acrylic yarn from South Korea, Taiwan and Japan, the exporters concerned

Tuesday, 20 May

Government investment in private industry

Mr. James Kilfedder (North Down) asked about the amount of public money invested by the present Government in private industry in England, Scotland and Wales, respectively, since February 1974.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the information as follows:

England	£48.1 million
Scotland	£19.5 million
Wales	£6.4 million

'The figures include all expenditure on the acquisition of share capital or the provision of loans, including loans under Section 7 of the

Industry Act, between 1 March 1974 and 30 April 1975,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'Investment in wholly Government-owned companies is excluded. The figure for Scotland includes payments totalling £12 million in respect of the Invergordon aluminium smelter scheme.'

Ryder report on British Leyland

Mr. Hal Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry had held any discussions with the TUC or affiliated unions on the subject of any commitments the unions might feel able to undertake with a view to securing the fulfilment of the objectives outlined in the Ryder Report on British Leyland.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'The Ryder team have said they found ample evidence that British Leyland's employees at all levels want to make their contribution to solving the company's problems. My Rt. Hon. Friend has discussed the Government's proposals with representatives of the CSEU and shop stewards. They are keen to begin talks with management on the proposals for a new structure of joint committees and councils recommended in the Ryder report.'

EEC: UK investment

Mr. Peter Blaker (Blackpool South) asked what was the value of net direct investment by Great Britain in other member countries of the EEC in 1973 at the latest available estimate; and, of this sum, how much represented profits made abroad and reinvested there and how much represented money borrowed abroad.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'The value of United Kingdom net direct investment, other than oil, in the other eight member countries of the EEC in 1973 was £519 million. Of this total, £144 million was financed from unremitted profits of subsidiaries and associates and £94 million by other non-cash transactions. Net overseas borrowing associated with this direct investment is estimated to have totalled £303 million, giving a net inflow of £22 million to the United Kingdom.'

ECSC

Mr. Ted Leadbitter (Hartlepool) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what proportion of the total size of the steel production capacity in the Common Market is laid down for any member country in the ECSC or the Paris Treaty; and to what extent the BSC is required to comply.

Mr. Meacher said: 'There is no provision in the ECSC Treaty of Paris for any fixing of the share for individual member countries of the total Community steel production capacity. However, the Commission's published guidelines for mergers between steel undertakings state that special consideration is necessary before authorisation of any merger creating a concentration of more than 13 per cent of total Community capacity. It was made clear in the negotiations for UK entry that the size of BSC (then about 16 per cent of total ECSC capacity) was not called into question and the Commission have no powers to prevent the BSC or the private British steel industry from constructing additional production capacity.'

Mr. Blaker asked whether the Secretary of State for Industry has now put to the European Commission proposals for the co-ordination of UK applications for ECSC housing loans covering coalminers as well as steelworkers.

'Yes,' said Mr. Meacher. 'The Commission is now assessing the specific UK schemes for housing assistance submitted for the 1975-76 programme, in consultation with responsible Government departments, the industries, trade unions and local authorities. To date, 11 schemes which could qualify for low interest loans have been proposed by the NCB, BSC, a private steel company, and four local authorities.'

Post Office receipts

'What are the total receipts of the Post Office from all sources, expressed as a percentage of total wages and salaries paid?' asked Mr. John Spence (Thirsk and Malton).

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'The total income shown in the Post Office Annual Report and Accounts for 1973-74 was £1,762.5 million. It represents 182.6 per cent of the total salaries bill as recorded in that report.'

Small boats

Mr. John Wakeham (Maldon) asked what was the estimated total value of small boats and equipment sold in the UK during 1974-75.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The value of UK production of commercial and pleasure craft of less than 100 gross tons plus imports minus exports of such new craft under 80 gross tons is estimated at £18.5 million for the year ending 30 September 1974. Estimates of the value of equipment sold for such craft cannot be made.'

Discount on wholesale supplies of bread

Mrs. Maureen Colquhoun (Northampton North) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, why she decided to regulate the discounts allowed on wholesale supplies of bread.

'It was necessary to regulate discounts on bread in order to safeguard expenditure of public money under the Bread Subsidy Scheme,' said Mrs. Williams. 'During the latter part of 1974 competition among plant bakers for a greater share of the relatively static bread market led to a sharp increase in the general level of discounts given to the larger wholesalers and retailers. To the extent that the higher discounts were not financed out of productivity savings, the bakers were entitled under the provisions of the Price Code to look for recoupment by way of increased prices. Under the Government's policy this would have entailed a higher rate of subsidy. Since there was evidence that the increased discounts were not in all cases being passed on at the retail level, subsidy money would in effect have contributed to an enlargement of retailers margins instead of benefiting the consumer as intended by Parliament.

'The Government welcomes the efforts of bakers to increase the efficiency of their operations, and is not seeking to eliminate competition. However, it could not overlook the public expenditure implications of the sharp rise in discounts. In formulating the discount controls, care was taken to set the maximum rate at a level which would not preclude price cutting. The action taken has reduced some of the more excessive discounts that were being given, but competition remains effective and most retailers are continuing to sell bread at keenly competitive prices.'

Food prices

Questions were asked by Mr. Nigel Spearing on the estimated cost of EEC membership to consumers of the CAP for pigmeat and pigmeat products, dairy products, fruit and various processed foodstuffs, and of the Community arrangements for tea, coffee and cocoa, fish, and poultry and eggs.

Mrs. Williams referred to the latest estimate of the effect of membership on food prices, which shows that membership is at present having no significant effect overall, and takes into account the effect of Community financed subsidies as well as levies and duties. She said that in the first quarter of 1975, membership was responsible for a slight overall reduction in prices. There was no significant effect on the retail price of pork, and a slight increase in the price of pigmeat products.

Referring to the question on dairy products, Mrs. Williams said that prices of dairy products were somewhat higher but: 'The cost to the taxpayer is of the Community Budget as a whole, not of individual programmes. As my Rt. Hon. Friend the Chief Secretary to the Treasury pointed out in reply to the Hon. Member for Edinburgh West on 16 May (*Hansard* Cols. 189-90), in the first four months of this year the United Kingdom's receipts from the Community Budget amounted to £49 million more than our contribution.'

Mrs. Williams said there was no significant effect on the retail price of fresh fruit, and an increase in the price of certain processed foodstuffs.

There was no significant effect on the retail price of tea, coffee or cocoa said Mrs. Williams. The most favoured nation rates of duty on imports into the UK of tea, coffee and cocoa on 1 January 1972 and 1 January 1975, and the present MFN CET rate are set out below. The bulk of the UK's imports of tea, coffee and cocoa continue to enter duty free from the developing countries of the Commonwealth.

	1 Jan. 1972	1 Jan. 1975	Full CET
Bulk tea	Free	Free	Free
Raw cocoa beans	Free	2.4%	4%
Raw coffee	£0.4625 per 100 kg.	4.2% + £0.1850 per 100 kg.	7%

There was no significant effect on the retail price of fresh fish, and a slight increase in the price of imported canned fish. There has been widespread concern recently at the low level of fresh fish prices.

There was no significant effect on the retail price of poultry or eggs. Imports into the UK of eggs and chickens, which comprise less than 3 per cent of the UK requirements, were subject to the charges listed below. This also shows the charges applied in the original Member States.

	Charges on imports into the UK 1 January 1972	Charges on imports into the UK 19 May 1975	Charges on imports into the Six 19 May 1975
Hens' eggs in shell	0.5-0.875p per dozen (increased by [4-7p] on 13 January 1972)	1.16p per dozen import refund on imports from Poland, South Africa, Bulgaria, Romania, Australia 15.12 per dozen from other third countries	3.97 uas per 100 kg on imports from Poland, South Africa, Bulgaria, Romania, Australia 43.97 uas per 100 kg from other third countries
Chicken	1.25 per lb.	0.75p per lb. from Bulgaria and Poland 10.23 per lb. from Hungary 2.2p per lb. other third countries	5.25 uas per 100 kg from Bulgaria and Poland 45.25 uas per 100 kg from Hungary 15.25 uas per 100 kg from other third countries

Mr. Spearing asked what effect a reduction by half in the import price of cereals would have on the price of the principal foodstuffs, including meat and dairy products.

'The Government has always made it clear that a fall in the world price of cereals of the magnitude postulated would reduce world prices for principal foodstufis below Community levels,' said Mrs. Williams. 'But it is of course unlikely, bearing in mind the increases throughout the world in the costs of production and marketing of cereals in the wake of the oil crisis. The price of North American wheat imported into the UK is no lower than it was a year ago. The implications of the increases in food production costs are discussed in paragraph 30 of the White Paper "Food from our Own Resources" (Cmnd. 6020).'

Mr. Spearing asked how much more consumers had to pay for lamb imported into the United Kingdom in 1973, 1974 and 1975 to date by virtue of UK membership of the Common Market; what the United Kingdom tariff was on 1 January 1972, and on 1 January 1975; and what it will be on 1 January 1978.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'The latest estimate of the effect of membership on food prices, which shows that membership is at present having no significant effect overall, takes into account the effect of Community financed subsidies as well as levies and duties. In the first quarter of 1975, membership was responsible for a slight overall reduction in prices because cereals and sugar were cheaper as a result of membership, although the estimate assumes a slight increase in the price of imported lamb. The most favoured nation rates of duty on imports into the UK of lamb on 1 January 1972 and 1 January 1975, and the present full MFN CET rate are set out below. My Rt. Hon. Friend the Minister of Agriculture gave notice in the Council of Ministers on 4 March that he will be seeking a substantial reduction in the Community tariff on lamb. Tariffs on foodstuffs generally will be negotiated as part of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations which are currently in progress: it is not possible to say therefore what they will be in 1978.'

	1 Jan. 1972	1 Jan. 1975	Full CET
Lamb	£0.9335 per cwt.	£0.3734 per cwt. + 12%	20%

Mr. Blaker asked for a list of those items of food that have been cheaper in price in the UK as a result of our membership of the European Community in the last two years.

Mrs. Williams said: 'The effect on food prices of our membership of the Community has varied from time to time. During the first quarter of 1975, official estimates show that membership of the Community was making food prices in the UK rather lower than they would otherwise have been. Sugar, cereals, some daily products, fruit and vegetables, and beef for certain categories of consumer have at various times been cheaper as a result of our membership.

'The precise effect of monetary and accession compensatory amounts on the retail price of individual foods is difficult to estimate because part of their effect is shown on imported grain used as animal feed.

'The value of monetary compensatory amounts varies with fluctuations in the value of sterling. At present mcas counteract the effect of the fall in the value of sterling on the prices of many of our food imports.

'The beef coupon scheme is estimated to have saved ½ per cent on the Food Index. EEC funds also contribute to the subsidy on butter.'

Mr. Blaker also asked how the present Monetary Compensatory Amount (MCA) system operated by the EEC is protecting the British consumer from increases in the price of imported food which would otherwise result from the depreciation of the pound sterling.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'The White Paper, "Food from our Own Resources" Cmnd. 6020 points out that, were we not a member of the Community, each 1 per cent change in the value of £ sterling when worked through into prices could add some £35 million to our food import bill. Membership of the Community is partly protecting us against the effects of the depreciation of sterling through the payment of import subsidies (monetary compensatory amounts) which bridge the gap between the fixed representative rate of the pound (the Green Pound) and a market rate for sterling.

'These subsidies are paid on a wide range of imports both from the rest of the Community and from third countries, notably on cereals, beef, dairy products, bacon and other payment products.'

Prevention of waste gas

Mr. James Craigen (Glasgow Maryhill) asked the Secretary of State for Energy what steps he is taking to prevent the waste of gas at those oilfields where the amount of gas produced in association with the oil may be insufficient to justify a separate pipeline to the shore.

Mr. Varley replied: 'Before consenting to any flaring I should need to be fully satisfied that there is no economically viable alternative. For this reason I intend to commission an independent feasibility study to evaluate the relative economics of alternative ways of bringing the associated gas ashore, possibly through a gas-gathering pipeline. I have invited the licensees in the UK sector of the North Sea to co-operate in such a study.'

Assistance to private companies

Mr. W. W. Hamilton (Central Fife) wanted to know the total sum of public money paid or promised to private companies in the last 12 months.

Mr. MacKenzie said that assistance to private companies by the Department of Industry in the 12 months to 30 April 1975 was as follows:

	£ million
Regional Development Grants	190.2
Provision of land and buildings	19.2
Selective Assistance (S.7 of the Industry Act)	64.0
Residual expenditure under the Local Employment Acts	18.9
R and D contracts with industry	1.0
Technological and Industrial Sponsorship	3.1
Aircraft and Aeroengine R and D	4.3
Concorde	76.9
RB 211 engine	108.6
Other aircraft and aeroengine projects	32.2
Space Technology	1.0
International Space Programme	3.8
Selective Assistance to individual industries, firms and undertakings	19.6
Refinancing of home shipbuilding	131.8
Assistance to Shipbuilding Industry	48.7
Other Support Services	3.2
Investment Grants	91.2
	817.8

These totals include payments to Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd. and Govan Shipbuilders, which are wholly Government-owned. I regret that details of assistance offered but not yet paid are not available.

Applications for assistance total well over 10,000 a year, and it is not possible to provide a breakdown by individual companies. It is, however, intended to publish offers of £10,000 or more under Section 7 of the Industry Act, and of £25,000 or more in respect of Regional Development Grants.

Bolton Report

Mr. Iain MacCormick (Argyll) asked to what extent the recommendations contained in paragraph 15.29 and 15.32 of the Bolton Report have been implemented.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'Arrangements have been made for existing and proposed forms and statistical surveys to be reviewed to ensure that they are necessary and suitable having regard to the demands which they make in terms of time and effort on respondents. This is an on going process and all

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DRILLING MACHINES
Richmond 2 in. Capacity Numerically-Controlled Drilling Machine, Table 9 ft. × 3 ft. (1972).
Kitchen & Wade 4½ ft. Model E32 Radial Drill (1972).
H.C.P. 5 ft. 4 in. Radial Drill (1974).
Pollard Corona 4 ft. Model 420 Radial Drill (1971).
Archdale 5½ ft. Radial Drill.
20 Herbert, Pollard, Jones & Shipman, Tauco, Progress and other Single and Multi-Spindle Drills.

MILLING MACHINES
T.O.S. FA3A-V Vertical Milling Machine (1968).
Elliott Sturdimill 1100 No. 2 Vertical Milling Machine (1972).
Elliott Victoria No. 4 Vertical Milling Machine (1964).
Pinordo Inso No. 3 Vertical Milling Machine (1970).
Gosmeta FV1000 Vertical Milling Machine.
Russian 6N12P Vertical Milling Machine (1966).
2 Cunliffe & Croom Vertical Milling Machines (1956).
Richmond No. 3 Vertical Milling Machine.
Archdale Vertical Milling Machine.
Giewont FWA32 Universal Milling Machine (1965).
Graffenstaden FU122N Universal Milling Machine (1956).
Cincinnati No. 4P Horz. Milling Machine (1954).
Parkson 2N Horz. Milling Machine (1962).
Parkson 1N Universal Milling Machine.
Edgwick Universal Milling Machine.
Cincinnati No. 2 Plain Horz. Milling Machine.
Several Dividing Heads, Rotary Tables and Milling Arbors.

TURRET and CAPSTAN LATHES
2 Herbert 9B Combination Turret Lathes (1956 and 1951).
Herbert No. 4 Senior Preoptive Capstan Lathe (1955).
Ward No. 7 Capstan Lathe (1951).
2 Ward No. 7 Combination Turret Lathes.
Ward 1A Capstan Lathe.
Herbert 2S Capstan Lathe.
Ward No. 3A Capstan Lathe (1956).

CENTRE LATHES
Churchill-Redman 36 in. Swing × 10 ft. S.S. and S.C. Profile Copying Lathe (1950).
Colchester Triumph 7½ in. Centre × 4 ft. 6 in. S.S. and S.C. Lathe (1972).
Cardiff 8½ in. Centre × 4 ft. S.S. and S.C. Lathe (1957).
Lang 24 in. Swing × 8ft. S.S. and S.C. Lathe.
Le Blond 16 in. Swing × 4 ft. 6 in. S.S. and S.C. Lathe.
Stanley 7 in. Centre × 34 in. S.S. and S.C. Lathe.
T.O.S. Type S.2B S.S. and S.C. Lathe.
7 Harrison, Colchester Triumph, Woodhouse & Mitchell, Willson and Boxford S.S. and S.C. Lathes.

SURFACING and BORING LATHES
Lang 42 in. Swing Surfacing and Boring Lathe.
2 Binns & Berry 38 in. Swing Surfacing, Boring and Screw-Cutting Lathes (1971).
Lang 24 in. Swing Surfacing and Boring Lathe.

GRINDERS
Lumsden 12 in. × 48 in. 70MLO Vertical Spindle Horz. Hydraulic Surface Grinder (1966).
Jones & Shipman 6 in. × 18 in. Model 540 Surface Grinder.
Jones and Shipman 10 in. × 24 in. Universal Tool and Cutter Grinder.
Jones & Shipman 12 in. × 17 in. Tool and Cutter Grinder.
Clarkson No. 1 Tool and Cutter Grinder.
Joets 10 in. × 24 in. Precision Surface Grinder (1968).
Lund Precimax 10 in. × 72 in. Hydraulic Cylindrical Grinder.
Keighley Universal Grinder.
Elliott Surface Grinder.
Excel No. 3 Horz. Surface Grinder.
Gattiec Vertical Hydraulic Surface Grinder.
Precimax Rotary Surface Grinder.
Le Blond Universal Tool and Cutter Grinder.
Wright Table Surface Grinder.
20 Lumsden, Rowland, Wadkin, Black & Decker and other Tool Grinders.
Archdale 3 in. Twist Drill Grinder.
Kuhlmann FSMO 4 in. × 12 in. Horz. Surface Grinder.
4 Dust Extraction Units.

SAWING MACHINES
Clifton & Baird 30 in. Hydraulic Cold Saw (1974).
Russell 30 in. Hydro Feed Cold Saw.
Wicksteed Model 5H 51 Power Hacksaw.
Startrite Meba Horz. Band Sawing Machine (1967).
Essex 12 in. Band Sawing and Filing Machine.
Excel No. 4 Band Sawing and Filing Machine.
Midsaw 36 in. Band Saw.
Clifton & Baird Automatic Saw Sharpener, Capacity 42 in.

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Butler 26 in Super Shaper.
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Heckert 8 in. × 42 in. Model GFL1000 Thread Milling Machine (1968).
Matrix 10 in. × 75 in. Precision Threading Machine.
Heap 2½ in. Pipe Threading Machine.
Atlas 4 in. Screwing Machine.
Fette Type RS20 Thread Rolling Machine.

JIG BORING MACHINES
Newall No. 1 Jig Borer, with O.M.T. 16 in. Optical Table, Tool Holders and Boring Heads.
Manex Jig Borer.

MISCELLANEOUS MACHINES
Cincinnati 5-54 Vertical Broach (1960).
Lang Horz. Mechanical Broach.
Jackson & Bradwell 181E Balancing Machine (1963).
Avery Type 7207 Balancing Machine.
Sunderland No. 5B Spur and Spiral Gear Planing Machine.
Marbaix Model M.73 Electrode Disintregator (1973).
Taylor-Hobson Engraving Machine.

SHEETMETALWORKING MACHINES
B.E.S.C.O. Truecut 8 ft. × 14 gauge Model 808 Power Guillotine.
B.E.S.C.O. 6 ft. × ¼ in. Undercrank Guillotine.
Eckold Metal Forming Machine for Section Curving and Doming (1972).
Wellform Lock Forming Machine (1971).
2 Sets 4 ft. × 16 gauge Bending Rolls.
2 B.E.S.C.O. 6 ft. × 14 gauge Folding Machines.
Pullmax P5/2 Nibbling Machine (1964).
2 Burfree Model 1A Nibbling Machines.
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Motorized Rotary Swaging Machine.

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Brush 1-Ton Electric Pony.
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Sciaky Automatic Spot Welder (1964).
Sciaky 25 K.V.A. Heavy Duty Spot Welder.
Vickers 300 K.V.A. Spot Welder.
Sciaky 10 K.V.A. Type BSA10 Spot Welder.
M.I.G. C.O.2 Continuous Wire Feed Welder.
Rockwell Micromet C.O.2 Model 400 Continuous Wire Feed Welder (1972).
Lincoln C.O.2 Supersprite Welder, with Wire Control.
B.O.C. C.O.2 Weldwell Welder, with Wire Control.
English Electric LWCO400 Welder, with Wire Control.
B.O.C. Argonarc Model DAR300H Arc Welder.
2 English Electric FWC 250-Amp. Welding Transformers.
Oxford 250-Amp. Welding Transformer (1972).
2 B.O.C. Type AC300-Amp. Welding Transformers (1972).
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New White 12 in. × 7 in. Type 333 Planing and Moulding Machine.
2 New Marzani V6C Knife Grinding Machines.
2 New Marzani FU/2N Cutter-Grinding Machines.
New Abal AVG24 Vee Grooving Machine.
Robinson 30 in YD/T Band Saw.
White 30 in. SH Band Saw.
White Type PD Panel Planer.
White 5K Dimension Saw Bench
White Disc and Bobbin Sander.
Robinson Type EB1 Circular Saw Bench.
White Profile Cutter Grinder.
White Multi-Head Machine Iron Grinder.

AIR COMPRESSORS, PAINT SPRAYING PLANT, FACTORY EQUIPMENT, ETC.
Broomwade 5½ in. × 10 in. Type D23 Static Air Compressor, with 44 B.H.P. Motor.
Hydrovane Static Air Compressor.
2 Paint Spray Booths, with Spray Guns, Filters and Regulators.
Cimex Floor Scarifying Machine.
Weighing Machines.
Steel Stores Racks and Bins.
Fitters' Benches and Vices.
Bogies and Barrows.

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
150 New A.C. Motors, from 50 to 0.5 H.P.
41 Croft, Radicon and Mergers Reduction Gear Units.
Electromotors 30/35 H.P. 220-Volt D.C. Motor-Generator Set.
B.T.H. Mercury Arc Rectifier.
2 B.T.H. Frequency Changers, 50/200 Cycles.
B.T.H. 50/75-Cycle Frequency Changer, with Voltage Regulator.
Large Selection of Electrical Fittings, including: Isolators, Ammeters, Solenoid Valves, Micro Switches, H.R.C. Fuses, Flexible Conduit Tubing, Cable, Flash Tester, etc.

OFFICE FURNITURE
Desks, Tables, Chairs, Filing Cabinets, Steel Cupboards, Typewriters, Calculators, Photo Copiers, etc

AT LAIGHPARK ENGINEERING WORKS, PAISLEY, SCOTLAND
(2 miles from Glasgow Airport—Abbotsinch),
ON TUESDAY 10TH, WEDNESDAY 11TH and THURSDAY 12TH JUNE, 1975
AT 10.30 A.M. PROMPT EACH DAY
ON VIEW MONDAY, 9TH JUNE, (9 a.m. till 4 p.m.) and DURING SALE

HAMILTON, MAY, 1975. **CATALOGUES FROM AUCTIONEERS** **Tel. No. HAMILTON 29211/2.**

(32)

proposed new statistical surveys intended for more than 10 respondents are considered by the Central Statistical Office.

'It has not been found practicable to assess the total cost of form filling to industry nor, in the interests of confidentiality, is it considered appropriate to create a central data bank. The 1973 Finance Act did, however, provide for Value Added Tax data to be made available to the Business Statistics Office as a means of reducing the need to include small firms in statistical surveys.'

Low cost automation centres

Mr. Cyril Smith (Rochdale) asked what contribution was made by the Department of Industry to the maintenance of low cost automation centres for the years 1973 and 1974.

Mr. MacKenzie replied that the Department's financial contribution amounted to £51,000 in 1973/74 and £39,000 in 1974/75. In addition, the Department provided promotional and information services.

Mr. Smith also asked about plans to expand the service provided by the low cost automation centres in the future.

'The scale and scope of the service and the level of the Department's future contribution to it are currently under review,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Food prices

Mr. Spearing asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to publish the estimate she made, in calculating the cost of the EEC membership, of the cost to the UK consumer and taxpayer, respectively, of the CAP on beef in 1974 and in 1975 to date, taking into account quantitive restriction on imports, the increase in duties on importation since 31 December 1972 and the removal of Irish beef from the UK market into intervention storage.

Mrs. Williams said: 'The latest estimate of the effect of membership on food prices, which shows that membership is at present having no significant effect on food prices overall, takes into account the effect of Community financed subsidies as well as levies and duties. In the first quarter of 1975, membership was responsible for a slight overall reduction in prices. On the retail price of beef, however, membership is thought to have had no significant effect.

'Market prices have been low because UK beef production reached record levels in the marketing year 1974/75, providing 86 per cent of total supplies. Despite the restriction of imports from non-Member States for much of the period in question, total net imports continued at a high level, at prices which benefitted from monetary compensatory amounts.

'Prices were not sustained by intervention buying: instead premium payments, derived from the UK deficiency payments system were negotiated in the course of the year by my Rt. Hon. Friend the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; so that producers' incomes are supported out of Community and Exchequer funds.

'The witholding of Irish beef from the market and its purchase by the Irish intervention authorities is of course a consequence of Irish and not of UK membership of the EEC.'

UK-EEC trade in steel

Information was asked for by Mr. Gwynfor Evans (Carmarthen) on the respective volumes of imports and exports of the principal steel products of the British Steel Corporation in trade between the UK and the rest of the EEC in 1973, 1974, and the available period of 1975.

Mr. Deakins said that UK trade with the EEC in the relevant product groups was as follows:

Thousand metric tons

	Imports			Exports		
	1973	1974	Jan.-Mar. 1975	1973	1974	Jan.-Mar. 1975
Total (1)	1,389	2,406	707	737	657	155
of which:						
Bars, rods and sections less than 80 mm.	310	370	81	202	171	49
Heavy rolled products, angles, shapes and sections 80 mm. and over	50	87	12	30	58	16
Plates 3 mm. and over	149	466	185	126	68	19
Sheets under 3 mm. thick coated or uncoated	620	950	271	202	163	29
Tinplate	37	49	18	34	27	8
Rails and railway equipment	1	0	0	9	7	3
Tubes and pipes	222	484	139	134	163	29

(1) These products are defined in terms of SITC(R) groups 673 and 674, sub-groups 678.2 to 678.4, new rails in 676.1 and sleepers and fishplates in 676.2.

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

3, 4 and 5 June 1975 Vehicles, Earthmoving and Lifting Equipment

Location: Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts

Auctioneers: Walker Walton and Hanson (Dept. L), Byard Lane, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham NG1 2GL (tel. 0602 54272)

Vehicles and plant including 550 saloons, limousines, estate cars, minibuses and light vans (including 300 Morris 'Mini' and 'Minor 1000' saloons and travellers). 300 Landrovers, 43 motor cycles. 250 commercial vehicles including heavy-duty trucks and tractors by AEC, Diamond T, Leyland and Scammell. 120 trailers (10 cwt. to 50 ton), refuellers (900 to 2,500 galls), fire tenders, low-loading trailers. 2 Leyland breakdown trucks with Hyd telescopic recovery cranes. Loading shovels, tractors and Angledozers by Bray, Caterpillar (D4C), Fowler, Gainsborough, Michigan, Track Marshall and Vickers. Mobile cranes by Coles and Neals. Fork-lift trucks (2,000 to 12,000 lb. lift), towed scrapers, tractors, GMC amphibious DUKWs. Plant spares to fit Aveling Barford, Bray, Blaw Knox, Fowler, Gainsborough, Hymac, International and Michigan including face shovel, Dragline, pile driver and drag shovel equipment. Fork-lift attachments, Back Acters, front buckets, dozer blades, winches etc. The majority of the vehicles are offered as single lots.

11 June 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds 8

Auctioneers: Bartle and Son, (Dept. L), 52 Merrion Street, Leeds LS2 8JH (tel. 0532-450898)

Industrial and garage plant and equipment including Ford estate cars, lathes, grinding, drilling, shearing and screwing machines, hydraulic press, diesel and electric fork-lift trucks, dynamometer, welding, braising and cutting equipment, MT spares, tyres, tools, batteries, pullifts. Electronic, wireless and signal equipment. Wooden huts. 28,000 yards of wool/rayon flannel cloth, blankets, carpets, tents, kit bags, mixed rags, duffle coats, jersey pullovers, greatcoats, raincoats, battle dress, shirts, boots and shoes. Household and office furniture including chairs, tables, wardrobes, dressing chests, bedsteads, filing cabinets, writing bureaux, bookcases and a large quantity of other miscellaneous stores.

Catalogues for the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

Sale by Tender:

The Ministry of Defence proposes to issue tenders for the sale of used anti-freeze, suitable for re-cycling, recovered from service vehicles.

Tenders will cover: (1) Term contract for a fixed period. (2) Offers to be made at a price per tonne 'as and where lying' at various depots throughout the UK. (3) Quantities estimated in excess of 500 tonnes per annum.

Contractors interested in purchasing should apply for tenders to the Ministry of Defence, Sales Supply 6aiii, Room 418, First Avenue House, High Holborn, London WC1V 6HE.

Britain

The Sex Discrimination Bill

by Lady Seear

Baroness Seear, a Life Peeress and Reader in Personnel Management at the London School of Economics and Political Science, is one of the country's most noted proponents of equal rights and equal opportunity for women. She is President of the Fawcett Society, formerly the London and National Society for Women's Service, and Chairman of the National Council for the Single Woman and Her Dependents. At an earlier stage in her career Lady Seear was personnel officer for one of Britain's leading shoe manufacturing companies, and she has subsequently been involved in the preparation of many written works on women and employment. Since being made a Life Peeress in 1971 she has been active in the House of Lords on behalf of women's interests.

This Bill has had a long gestation period. Mrs. Joyce Butler's first private Member's Bill on anti-discrimination was introduced in the House of Commons in 1968. Since then there has been a series of Bills in the Commons and the Lords, followed in September 1973 by the Conservative Government's consultative document *Equal Opportunities for Men and Women* and a year later by the Labour Government's White Paper *Equality for Women;* and now, finally, the Sex Discrimination Bill 1975.

At the time of writing it is not, of course, law. But since all political parties are committed in principle to legislation to outlaw discrimination on grounds of sex, it can be assumed the Bill will not be thrown out, though it may well be amended in its passage through Parliament. So sometime this year, in time at any rate to coincide with the full implementation of the Equal Pay Act 1970 at the end of December, the Act will be on the Statute book and discrimination on grounds of sex will be illegal.

At a time when new legislation affecting the relations between employer and employed is flooding through Parliament, many managements may feel this Bill is of relatively minor importance and tend to ignore it; or alternatively, may regard it as the last straw. This could be both unwise and a pity. The implications of the Bill are potentially very far-reaching and call for a close scrutiny of personnel practices, discussions with employee representatives, and in many cases a modification of existing procedures. It also provides an opportunity to use far more effectively the vast army of women at work, who today comprise more than a third of the country's total labour force.

The Bill, as foreshadowed in the White Paper, is more comprehensive than any of the private Members' Bills which have preceded it. The drafting of legislation being the highly technical job it is, private Members try to keep their Bills as simple as possible, concentrating on a few major issues. As promised, the Bill covers not only education, training and employment, the areas which were attacked by the private Bills, but also discrimination in relation to the provision of goods, facilities and services. Gone, therefore, will be the days when different provisions could apply to men and to women in relation to mortgages and finance and loans. Credit worthiness will be related to financial circumstances not to sex. This, together with other clauses in the Bill, means that where firms provide benefits for employees in these areas, such benefits must be equally available to men employees and to women employees.

For most employers, however, it is the provisions dealing with training and employment which are of major importance. Most people in any way concerned with this legislation now know that, taken together with the Equal Pay Act 1970, it will make it illegal for an employer to discriminate against a woman by treating her less favourably than he would treat a man in almost the whole field of employment opportunities. It covers in particular advertising, selection for jobs, all training and promotion opportunities, pay and terms and conditions of employment. It does not cover provisions for retirement and pensions.

The major exceptions of interest to both employers and to women and their representatives are contained in clause 7, where the legality of discrimination based on 'genuine occupational qualification' is spelt out in detail. This clause will no doubt be the subject of a good deal of argument before the Bill becomes law.

Exception is allowed where the job calls for 'authentic male characteristics'. This plainly includes the baritone in the choir, but how widely can it be interpreted? Physical strength will no doubt be cited. But while on average men have greater strength than women, some women are stronger than some men. It is always the individual woman not the average woman who is being appointed to a particular job and this is a point which women will want to see covered.

Again, the intention of the exception on grounds of 'privacy and decency' will be accepted by most people, but phrases such as work which 'is likely to involve physical contact with men in circumstances where they might reasonably object' leaves a great deal to the discretion of the industrial tribunals, which will normally deal with these cases. Exception is also in certain circumstances allowed where additional premises would have to be erected to accommodate women. This would be acceptable

The United Nations have designated 1975 International Women's Year. The theme for the Year is 'Equality, Development, Peace': the promotion of equality between men and women, the full participation of women in the development of the community in both developed and under-developed countries, and the recognition of the importance of women in the promotion of world peace. At the request of the Government, the Women's National Commission is co-ordinating the United Kingdom national effort to mark the Year. A member of the Commission is Baroness Seear, who here discusses some aspects of a Bill which appropriately is expected to obtain Parliamentary approval this year and which will mark a further important stage in the country's continuing progress towards equality in treatment and opportunity for women. Lady Seear points to some of the far-reaching implications of this Bill for commerce and industry.

if it were accompanied by a time limit, after which employers would be required to provide the missing bedrooms and lavatories. A short clause which will certainly not go unchallenged states that exceptions apply 'where some only of the duties of the job . . . as well as where all of them' are covered by the clause.

These provisions, with relatively minor changes, are in line with the proposals in the White Paper. There are, however, two innovations of great importance which are intended to deal with problems which, if not solved, could prevent the legislation achieving its main purpose. An employer who was determined to make the least possible change in existing practices, to keep only to the letter of the law as proposed in the White Paper, could open all jobs equally to men and to women, but could attach conditions to jobs which would in fact make it very unlikely that many women would apply.

To prevent this a clause is inserted to ban what is being termed 'indirect discrimination'. Indirect discrimination would occur where an employer attached to a job 'an unfavourable requirement or condition . . . such that the proportion of women who can comply with it is considerably smaller than the proportion of men who can comply with it, and which he can not show to be justifiable irrespective of the sex of the person to whom it is applied'. This is welcome realism and may have far-reaching implications.

The clause will force firms and trade unions to look closely at some old-established and perhaps never-challenged practices. It will be particularly interesting to see what will happen to a common requirement that for certain supervisory positions a craft apprenticeship must have been served. Is this always a necessary condition for such a post or just a long-established custom?

What will the effect be on length of service qualifications for promotion? The break in a woman's career puts most women at an immediate disadvantage in competing with men where such customs prevail. Where length of service or seniority rules are rigorously applied in very many cases 'the proportion of women who can comply' with them will be considerably smaller than the proportion of men.

The second innovation of major importance in the Bill is the introduction of 'positive discrimination', as it is sometimes termed, in relation to training. There have been and are advocates of positive discrimination on a wide front. It is argued that because in the great majority of higher level jobs there are at present very few women, the balance should be redressed by laying down that a given number or proportion of women must be appointed to these positions.

There are two major objections to any general application of this policy. The case for non-discrimination rests on the argument that women, when sex prejudice is eliminated, can compete successfully on their merits. They do not need to have the scales weighted in their favour. There is also the very strong – though perhaps not frequently pressed – argument that the interests of the consumer and the public are best served by ensuring that the person who is likely to perform the job most effectively is the person who is appointed. It is, for example, difficult to see why pupils should be given less than the best available teaching because a less well-qualified teacher has to be appointed in order to redress the sex balance.

Of course, such a policy could produce quick results of immediate benefit to some women, but at a considerable and unjustifiable price. The drafters of the Bill have not fallen for this temptation. Instead, as in the case of 'indirect discrimination', they have recognised and acted on the real obstacles to effective equality of opportunity.

At present, if jobs previously filled almost entirely by men were opened to women, in many cases very few women would be appointed because very few women have been trained for these categories of work. This is hardly surprising. It would be a very odd woman who spent years of her life preparing for an apparently non-existent job. So the paramount need is to increase the supply of trained women.

While the Bill makes discrimination on grounds of sex illegal in training in general, a most important exception is made. Where there are none or a comparatively small number of persons of one sex doing a particular kind of work, it will be lawful to give preference to that sex in the provision of training opportunities.

The Sex Discrimination Bill

Here, for many employers is the starting point for the implementation of the Bill. An audit of staff by grade and sex will show where there are major discrepancies between the sexes. A forecast of future manpower requirements will show where training effort needs to be concentrated, and it is in these areas that training which discriminates positively in favour of women can be focused.

It is through such steps that the purposes of the Bill are in the end most likely to be achieved. The decision to legislate in this field implies a system of enforcement as an important means of fighting discrimination, and the Bill provides for enforcement procedures and machinery. Individual cases in the employment and training field are normally to be handled by conciliation officers of the Conciliation and Arbitration Service and by industrial tribunals. Compensation can be awarded.

There is also to be a new institution, an Equal Opportunities Commission, with a general duty to work towards the elimination of discrimination. The Commission will not normally handle individual cases. It will attempt to educate and persuade, it will undertake research and it will also have powers to conduct investigations in organisations and, in certain circumstances, to serve a non-discrimination notice which can ultimately lead to an injunction in a county court ordering the cessation of discriminatory practices. The court can award damages.

Those in front cry forward and those behind cry back. The proposed enforcement procedures have been criticised in some quarters as feeble and lacking in teeth, while others are worried about the extent of the powers of investigation. But whatever the ultimate form of the enforcement machinery two points stand out.

Without some enforcement machinery it is highly improbable that the great majority of employers or trade unions would take vigorous action to alter existing customs and practices and another quarter of a century might well roll by with little change in the position of the great majority of women. On the other hand, changes that are effective and lasting are changes which are carried out because those who make them are convinced that they are necessary and right.

The impetus to change may come from external pressures, often, as in this case, legal pressures. But employers may react to these pressures in two quite different ways. They may decide to do the minimum the law requires, seeking to take advantage of every possible legal loophole. Alternatively, they may begin to look at the whole question of the employment of women in a new light.

Politicians and lawyers talk about change and draft Acts of Parliament. It is employers and managers who do the actual work that makes change happen. Making change happen is, after all, at the heart of a manager's job. It is true that women have been a neglected group in the labour force; that industrial practices have not reflected the alterations that have taken place in family and social life; that industry is the poorer as a result. Once managers accept this, discrimination is on its way out.

British Labour Statistics: Historical Abstracts 1886–1968

This unique standard work of reference brings together all the main series of official statistics compiled by the Department of Employment and its predecessers since 1886, plus some for even earlier years. It contains 389 pages of tables and 50 pages of text and the subjects covered are wage rates, earnings, hours of work, retail prices, employment, unemployment, vacancies, family expenditure, industrial accidents, and disputes, membership of trade unions, labour costs and output per head. This will be a most valuable source-book for everyone concerned with the study and formulation of economic policies. **£7**

Also available
British Labour Statistics: Year book 1972 **£9**

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH), Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers

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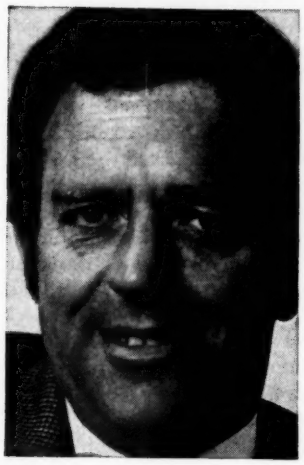
BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

British steel plant for Mexico



By
A. G. Raper,
director and chief
executive of
Davy Ashmore
International Ltd.

On 18 March 1974 Altos Hornos de Mexico, SA (AHMSA) and Davy Ashmore International (DAI) signed a contract for the supply and installation of a 'turnkey' ironmaking, steelmaking and continuous casting plant. The plant will be built by DAI, the Stockton-on-Tees based subsidiary of Davy International, on a site alongside AHMSA's existing works at Monclova in the State of Coahuila which is about 120 miles south of the USA border. The value of the contract is over £50 million.

The negotiations

DAI interest in the project began in July 1973 when their agents in Mexico, Forel de Mexico, advised that AHMSA were planning a large new development. Within a week a group of engineers were en route from Stockton to Monclova for technical discussions. This quick response subsequently proved to be of great advantage since from an early date it ensured that AHMSA's engineers were aware of the benefits which were to be obtained from the technology offered by the British company. Most important of all it was the beginning of a common technical philosophy which gradually developed between AHMSA and DAI engineers.

During August and September further meetings were held in Monclova and DAI produced a number of alternative preliminary schemes and budget prices. At the same time AHMSA were carrying out similar discussions with other potential international contractors from the USA, Japan, France, Italy and West Germany. On 15 October AHMSA released their final inquiry specifications for two major parts of the development, the blast furnace and the basic oxygen steel plant. Shortly afterwards there followed further inquiries for the raw materials blending and handling and the continuous casting plant areas.

The inquiry documents stipulated that bids were to be received at 19.00 hours on 14 December 1973. This was an enormous challenge since a tender of this magnitude normally takes from three to four months to prepare. After a great effort involving much midnight oil from many engineers in Stockton, the scheduled date was met and the tender was delivered with one hour to spare. The early response and efforts made by DAI had been a significant factor in enabling DAI to meet the deadline.

The tender evaluation

Six international tenders were received by AHMSA for the main plant areas but only DAI offered complete 'turnkey proposals' covering raw materials blending and handling, the blast furnace, the steel plant and the continuous casting plant. Additionally, operator training facilities in the United Kingdom were offered in collaboration with the British Steel Corporation. A comprehensive engineering service was also offered which covered many of the ancillary items required by AHMSA but not included in the main packages such as water treatment plants, power facilities, a laboratory, change houses, roads and railways, etc. The comprehensive nature of DAI's proposals was of great interest to AHMSA who realised that significant price, finance, co-ordination and programme advantages would accrue in dealing with a single main contractor with a single responsibility.

On 3 January 1974 a DAI team, led by their sales director and comprising legal representatives, engineers and estimators complete with secretaries, departed for Mexico against a background of the oil crisis and a deteriorating coal supply position which was eventually to lead to the three-day working week in the UK. This team was to be responsible for the negotiations which followed and certain members of the team were to remain in Mexico for several months before completing their task.

At this time AHMSA were reviewing all bids and negotiating with DAI's competitors, taking into account the detailed technical, commercial and price aspects of all tenders. Gradually the overall attractions of the DAI offer began to emerge which were given a considerable boost by a British loan offered by Brandts.

Representatives of the London-based merchant bankers visited Mexico in January and offered to arrange a loan facility which would be guaranteed by the Exports Credits Guarantee Department and which would cover the total envisaged DAI supply. The potential loan, which was ultimately to be the subject of a separate financial agreement, signed by Brandts and AHMSA, covered the complete cost of the plant together with other items such as spare parts and freight. The terms offered included a 12-year repayment period from the date of commissioning.

Towards the end of January AHMSA indicated that they were attracted by the DAI offer and the potential loan and the British company were invited to try and negotiate a final form of contract. From this point onwards DAI realised that they were in a strong position to secure the business but in the weeks of negotiation which followed many obstacles had to be overcome and concessions granted as competitors continued to submit revised proposals. During this time AHMSA

made it clear that they were prepared to move away from the British offer if the alternatives proved more attractive.

The contract

The contract for the supply of equipment was signed on 18 March 1974. A second contract covering the civil engineering works and construction followed shortly afterwards and together the contracts and relevant annexes comprised several hundred pages. A contract of this magnitude demands that both parties are aware and agree in detail on all aspects which are concerned with the execution of the project. Apart from the obvious requirements of specification, prices and terms of payment, the contract documentation covers items such as cost escalation, shipping, insurance, provision of spare parts, importation, finance, taxes, patents, proprietary rights, inspection, programmes, *force majeure*, guarantees, penalties and arbitration. Most of these points were the subject of prolonged discussions between the two companies and after such meetings drafts were prepared in Spanish and English for further study by both parties. On many occasions numerous drafts were produced before an agreed version was obtained and it is a tribute to both sides that relationships remained good despite the lengthy and tough negotiations which often extended into weekends and on one occasion were not completed until 5.30 a.m. in the morning. Eventually, on 18 March, complete and final forms of contract were available. These were signed in Mexico City in the presence of the British Ambassador by AHMSA's Director General, Ing. Jose Antonio Padilla Segura, and by DAI's chairman, Arthur Whiting.

The plant

The plant forms part of AHMSA's current expansion programme which is designed to increase steel production at Monclova from 3.0 million tonnes to 3.75 million tonnes/annum. It comprises three main sections: an ironmaking plant, a basic oxygen steelmaking plant and a slab continuous casting plant.

The ironmaking plant will produce 4,500 tonnes of hot metal per day and will comprise a raw materials blending and stockyard, a furnace blower plant and a blast furnace.

Iron ore, iron ore pellets, sinter and limestone, the essential ingredients apart from coke for making pig iron or hot metal, will be delivered to the plant by rail although some provision is made for road transport. The rail wagons will arrive at a marshalling yard and will be delivered to a wagon tippler which will discharge the contents of the wagons into underground reception hoppers. The materials will be taken from the reception hoppers by conveyor belt to the stockyard where they will be stockpiled by one of two stacker reclaimer units. The materials will be reclaimed from the stockyard when required by the blast furnace using a bucket wheel which will form part of the stacker reclaimers. During the stacking and reclamation process the materials will be blended to provide a uniform consistency.

The materials from the stockyard together with coke from the coke ovens will be delivered to the blast furnace via a stockhouse which will screen and weigh the materials before delivery to the top of the blast furnace. A main charging conveyor will transport the materials into one of two hoppers located on top of the furnace and which will be provided with seal valves to maintain the furnace pressure during the charging operation. The materials will fall from the hoppers through a rotating chute into the furnace. This is a modern system of charging known as 'bell-less' charging. It improves the distribution of materials within the furnace and eliminates the conventional large and small blast furnace bells.

Air for the blast furnace and stoves will be supplied by a single flow axial blower which will be driven by a steam turbine rated at 25 MV. The blower rating will be 5,000 Nm^3/min. and the blower will generate a pressure of 5 atmospheres. Speed control of the turbine will be by hydraulically operated steam inlet valves and exhaust steam from the turbine will condense in an air cooled finned heat exchanger.

The hearth diameter of the blast furnace will be 11.2 metres and thus the production rating is 45.8 tonnes per day per square metre of hearth area which is realistic for the materials which will be used. The furnace is similar to that illustrated opposite which was recently constructed for the British Steel Corporation by DAI at Llanwern in South Wales. The furnace will comprise a self-supported shell within a tower construction which is the design of the majority of modern furnaces now under construction through the world. The design gives greater space and improved clearances in the operating areas together with the opportunity of using an improved lining and cooling system design. The furnace bosh and hearth jacket will be water spray cooled whilst the stack will be cooled by copper and steel plate coolers connected in a closed circuit with air cooled heat exchangers.

The dirty gases from the blast furnace will pass through a dust-catcher and after quenching will be delivered to a gas cleaning plant which will comprise two adjustable high efficiency scrubbing units in series followed by a water droplet separator. The dust content of the clean gas leaving the gas cleaning plant will be less than 5mg/Nm^3.

The air blast delivered from the blowers will be preheated in three regenerative stoves before delivery to the blast furnace. The cyclic operation of the stoves will be automatically controlled and they will be fired with a mixture of blast furnace and coke oven gas using a ceramic burner which will ensure good mixing and total combustion within the confines of stove combustion chamber. A straight line hot blast temperature of 1,215°C will be achieved and the maximum temperature of the stove refractory dome will be 1,415°C. Waste gases will be removed from the stoves via an underground flue to a chimney.

The steelmaking plant will produce 750,000 tonnes of steel per year from a single 125 tonne basic oxygen furnace. Provision will be made for the installation of the second and third furnaces. The specific capacity of the furnace will be 0.945m^3/tonne to permit blowing rates sufficient for blowing times of about 16 mins.

Hot metal will arrive at the steel plant from the blast furnace in 250 tonne torpedo cars via a desulphurisation station where the sulphur content of the iron will be reduced using magnesium coke. After desulphurisation the torpedo cars will enter the steelplant and the hot metal will be weighed and poured into a charging ladle.

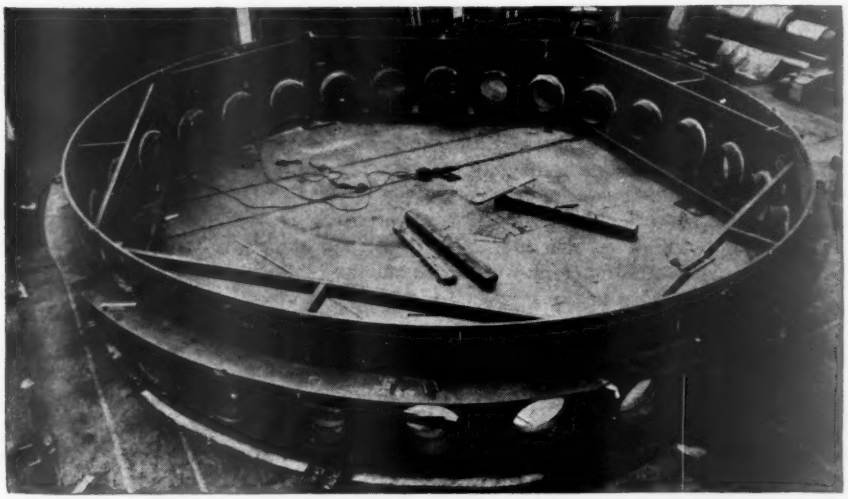
Scrap for the steel plant will be transported in boxes from an external scrap storage area by means of trailers hauled by diesel tractors. All flux materials will be delivered by road vehicles and discharged into three ground reception hoppers before being conveyed to high level storage bunkers. The eight high level bunkers will contain burnt lime, ore or pellets, burnt dolomite and fluorspar and these materials will be delivered to the furnace through a weigh hopper, a charge holding bunker and finally a water cooled chute.

The waste gases from the oxygen steelmaking process will contain large quantities of fume which will be collected in a suppressed combustion system known as the O.G. Type. In

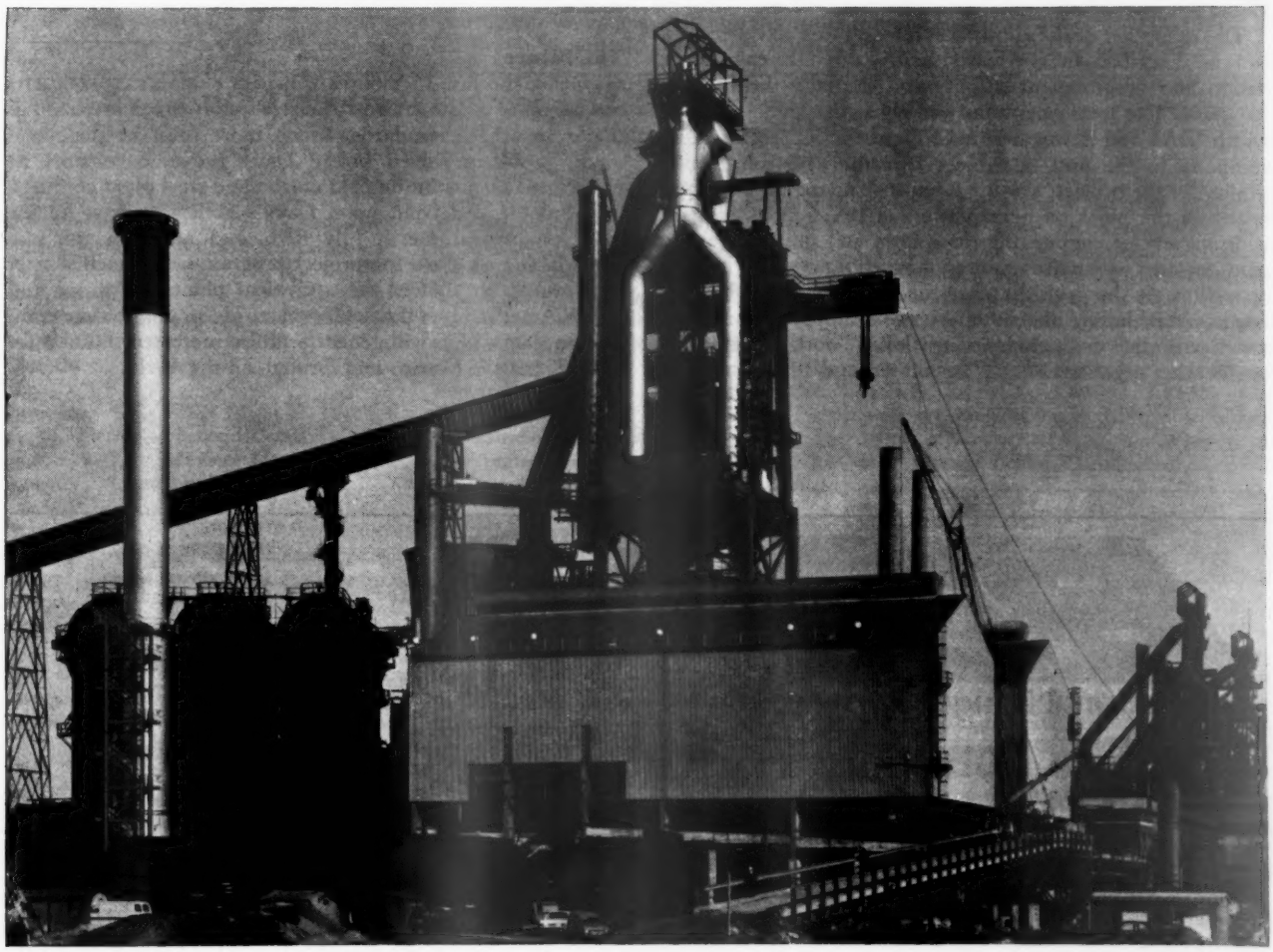
this system the entrainment of excess air into the hood is minimised and controlled within close limits by balancing the gas pressure at the furnace mouth. The process is assisted by the use of a hydraulically operated skirt which can be lowered to reduce the gap between the furnace mouth and hood. The waste gas from the furnace will pass through the skirt, a lower hood, an upper hood and a radiation section and these sections will be constructed of small bore membrane tubing which will be cooled by a pressurised cold water system with air cooled heat exchangers. The gases will leave the hood at 1,100°C and will enter a two stage gas cleaning plant. In the first stage the gases will be cooled to saturation temperature and the larger dust particles removed. The slurry will be removed to a clarifier where the thickened slurry will be removed by underflow pumps and the clarified water will be returned to the gas cleaning plant. The waste gases will then pass to a high efficiency scrubber where the majority of the remaining dust particles will be removed, giving an outlet gas with a maximum dust content of 115 mg/Nm^3, which will be delivered to a flare stack.

The casting machine will be a Demag 2 strand slab casting machine equipped with a fixed radius mould and secondary cooling section. The cast slabs will be 175 mm or 200 mm thick and the width will vary between 840 mm and 1,070 mm.

Right: Fabricating plant for the AHMSA project at the works of one of the selected equipment suppliers in the North East region.



Below: Davy Ashmore recently built this blast furnace for the British Steel Corporation at Llanwern in South Wales. It is a similar furnace that is being constructed by DAI for the AHMSA project.



Liquid steel from the basic oxygen furnace will be transferred using a casting ladle and overhead crane to a turret on top of the machine. The ladle will be located in the casting position by rotating the turret through 180° and the steel will be poured from the ladle through a sliding gate nozzle into the tundish which will distribute the steel into the moulds at a controlled rate through stopper controlled nozzles. Primary solidification of steel will take place in the curved copper moulds which will be water cooled utilising a closed circuit with air cooled heat exchangers. Below the moulds the solidifying steel strand will be guided by a curved roller apron which will include the secondary cooling spray zones. The solidified cast block will be removed from the machine by a straightening/withdrawal machine and it will then enter an oxygen propane torch machine which will cut the block into predetermined lengths before transfer by roller tables to slab cooling beds.

In addition to the main items of plant described DAI are also supplying all associated buildings, civil works, cranes, transport vehicles, electrical systems and substations, instrumentation, water systems and pumphouses, oxygen, nitrogen and compressed air systems, fuel supply systems together with other ancillaries required to provide a total plant.

Contract execution

The execution of the contract is already well advanced and can be described in two parts, firstly, the UK engineering design and procurement activity and secondly the site construction. The total operation was given the highest priority within DAI and it was decided to appoint a Director of the company to the post of Project Director with sole responsibility for the project. For the first phase a task force has been set up in the Stockton headquarters of DAI representing the wide variety of engineering disciplines and project management services which are required for such a major engineering operation. At the peak the team numbered over one hundred engineers excluding the administration support services. To assist with the civil engineering design work a consultant engineering organisation was appointed and they provided a design liaison team within the DAI offices to ensure proper engineering coordination between the electrical, mechanical and structural design work executed by DAI and the civil design. The contract programme is extremely short thus it was decided to place letters of intent for many long delivery items before the final contract with AHMSA was signed and from that good beginning the massive procurement, expediting and inspection exercise has proceeded well. Special measures have been required to overcome some delivery problems shown up by the in-depth expediting to provide timely corrective action. In all approximately 40,000 tonnes of equipment, steel work and miscellaneous material will be delivered from the UK for the installation.

A Mexican consortium has been appointed for the total construction of the local works. A DAI client liaison office has been set up in Mexico City and a large DAI office has been established on the plant site. Civil engineers from the UK to supervise the activities of the subcontractor were transferred to Monclova at an early date and they were supplemented with locally recruited administration staff and project managers from the UK. Recently the project director took up residence at Monclova. The major influx of DAI supervisory engineers began in February and by the latter part of 1975 over 50 expatriate staff with their families will be living in Monclova. This force will be further reinforced by commissioning specialists and representatives from UK subcontractors.

DAI are now building 40 houses for their personnel due to the limited supply of rented houses. Additionally a school is being built and expatriate teachers have been appointed to provide courses similar to the Stockton system to reduce the disruption to the children's education. Considerable attention has been given to social and welfare aspects in order to ensure that an efficient working team is maintained throughout the contract.

The future

During the last 15 months a British engineering company has begun to create an iron and steel plant which is classed as major by world standards. Much more must be done and many problems solved before Davy proves once more its undoubted talents in the field of iron and steel plant contracting. Proof will depend upon Davy's ability to start up the plant on programme in July 1976, and although this is a formidable task since the project programme is much shorter than would be allowed for equivalent plants in Europe and North America, it is the achievement of the programme completion date which will generate future increased business for the UK both in Mexico and throughout the world.

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BOTB News

Expanding market for British gardening products in Japan

'In Japan the United Kingdom is considered one of the most advanced countries in horticulture in the world and UK gardening products have been well accepted', states the *Japanese Market for Gardening Products*, a survey published on 20 May by the British Overseas Trade Board. It notes that UK greenhouses and mowers already have good reputations in Japan and considers there are good possibilities for sales of British ornamental garden equipment, sprayers, plant food, gardening hand implements and garden furniture.

The expansion of the market is illustrated by its growth rate. During the three years 1972-74 it is estimated to have increased by 18-23 per cent a year reaching Y27,100 million in 1974. It is expected that this growth will continue and will reach Y34,500-Y37,500 million in 1977.

The survey provides a detailed analysis of the market factors for 13 major categories of garden products. These are horticultural chemicals, plant food, greenhouses, mowers, sprayers, sprinklers, gardening hand implements, garden furniture and ornamental garden equipment, power and chain saws, garden buildings, garden sheds, flowers and plants, and seeds and bulbs.

A list of nine primary wholesalers in Japan who play an important role in the distribution of gardening products – they are estimated to be controlling more than 40 per cent of domestic transactions – is given in the survey. It suggests that British exporters could find it worthwhile to use these Japanese wholesalers for marketing their products in Japan.

Particular attention is drawn to the regulations on horticultural chemicals and plant food. The survey emphasises that it is essential for British exporters to study the relevant regulations before attempting to sell in Japan.

Other information includes the type and number of potential customers, opportunities for joint ventures, a list of 33 potential importers, and guidance on sales promotion in Japan.

In June 1976 the BOTB will be supporting a Gardening and Do-It-Yourself equipment exhibition in the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo. British manufacturers interested in space at this exhibition should contact the Federation of Garden and Leisure Equipment Exporters Ltd. (GARDENEX) 9 Church Street, Hungerford Berks. RG17 0JG (tel. Hungerford 2532).

The Japanese Market for Gardening Products was prepared for the BOTB by Dodwell Marketing Consultants, Tokyo. It is available to British manufacturers, price £10 post free, from the Central Library, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Visits by British Overseas Commercial Officers

The following Overseas Commercial Officers are expected to be in this country shortly, when they will be available for discussions:

Cameroon
S. Prince, HM Consul in Douala, since August 1974.
Available: September 1975.

Jamaica
T. W. Llewelyn, Second Secretary (Commercial) in Kingston since March 1974.
Available: September 1975.

Panama
P. Sharman-Golding, Second Secretary Commercial, locally engaged in Panama since January 1963.
Available: September 1975.

British firms and organisations, other than those in Northern Ireland and in the areas covered by the Department of Trade Offices for the Eastern Region and the London and South Eastern Region, who wish to meet these officers to discuss specific export problems are asked to write for appointment to the appropriate Department of Industry Regional Director (Exports) stating the nature of the problem and commodities involved. Those firms and organisations in the London-based Regions mentioned above (together with those in other Regions who would prefer, or who would be prepared if necessary to meet the officers for an interview in London) should write to Tours Section, Overseas Visitors Bureau, Department of Trade, Room G60, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Firms and organisations who wish to meet these officers in Northern Ireland should contact the Export Branch of the Department of Commerce, Belfast.

Because Commercial Officers often have only limited time at their disposal it may not always be possible to fit everyone in. Where it is possible, firms are reminded that the Export Services and Promotion Division of the Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, who are in close touch with all Overseas Commercial Officers can very often supply advice, or the information that applicants hoped to obtain at the interview. Outside London the Regional Offices of the Department of Industry or, in Northern Ireland, the Department of Commerce, Belfast, can also help.

Canning House entertains Cuban Deputy Prime Minister

The Economic Affairs Committee of Canning House gave a lunch on 20 May for Cuban Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and his high level delegation from Cuba. The lunch, hosted by the Chairman of Canning House, Lord Chalfont, was addressed by Dr. Rodriguez.

The primary purpose of the visit to the UK is the signing of the Anglo-Cuban Economic and Industrial Co-operation Agreement, which it is hoped will encourage closer co-operation between the industries of the two countries. The other objective is for Dr. Rodriguez and other members of his team to meet representatives of British industry, and the Cubans have greatly welcomed the Economic Affairs Committee's initiative in providing the opportunity for them to have informal discussions with some 50-60 businessmen drawn from many sectors of industry.

The EAC is the British Overseas Trade Board Area Advisory Group for Latin America and as such fulfils the function of facilitating contacts between governments and the private sector.

Exhibitions and Fairs

HRH Prince Phillip being greeted at the British Marine Council's Exhibition in Tokyo, by Mr. Tom Bewsey (centre); also in the photograph are left to right) Mr. Ben Thorne, Commercial Counsellor at the British Embassy in Tokyo, Mr. Donald Maxwell, Director of BEMC and Mr. John Field, First Secretary (Commercial) at the British Embassy.

Double first for BEMC in Tokyo

By Derek H. Deere, Editor, 'Shipping World and Shipbuilder'

A notable double 'first' has been scored by the British Marine Equipment Council (BMEC) in Japan. BMEC were the first organisation to hold an exhibition of equipment at the British Export Marketing Centre (BEMC) in Tokyo, in October 1973, just after the Centre was opened by the Duke of Kent (*Trade and Industry*, 27 September 1973), and now BMEC have become the first organisation to stage a second exhibition at the Centre.

This second promotion took place over the period 6-10 May and coincided with the Queen's state visit to Japan. The exhibition was honoured by a visit on 9 May by HRH Prince Phillip who toured the 19 stands accompanied by Mr. Tom Bewsey, immediate past chairman of BMEC and chief industry spokesman for the Japan visit.

The exhibition was promoted by BMEC in close co-operation with the British Overseas Trade Board, who also sponsored the event, and was organised with the help of the Commercial Department's staff at the British Embassy in Tokyo and of the Export Marketing Centre's own staff.

Since its opening, the Centre has successfully hosted a wide range of exhibitions and has done some excellent work in helping to promote British trade with Japan.

The importance attached to the current event by the Japanese was indicated by the presence as guest of honour at the opening reception, of Mr. Isamu Yamashita, President of the Shipbuilders Association of Japan. This reception was hosted by Mr. J. I. McGhie, the Minister, Commercial and Economic at the British Embassy.

Although BMEC's membership now totals 138 full member companies and 27 associate members, only 19 of these could be accommodated at the Centre, but they represented a wide range of marine equipment. From BMEC's total membership virtually all of the equipment requirements for a merchant or naval ship can be met.

In Tokyo, suppliers of navigational aids in particular were well represented with stands by Decca Radar, Kelvin Hughes, Marconi International and Redifon Telecommunications. In the propulsion field Rolls Royce (1971), Doxford Engines and Mirrlees-Blackstone were exhibiting, and Glacier Metal and Railko were showing propeller shaft sealing and bearing arrangements.

The wide range of ancillary equipment represented included valves by Crane, lifeboats by Watercraft-Viking, steering gear by John Hastie, Victor Pyrate hose reels and tank cleaning machinery, a cabin panelling system by GKN Sankey, pumps and compressors by Hamworthy Engineering, refrigeration machinery by Hall-Thermotank International, pump systems by Weir Pumps, pump control and monitoring systems by Hydraulics and Pneumatics and pipe and tube products by Yorkshire Imperial Metals. BMEC also had a stand where information about their activities and those of their members not exhibitiing could be obtained. Y-Ard the marine consultants were also represented at the exhibition.

During the week a programme of eight papers forming a technical seminar was presented and a programme of films was also shown. These events were well attended and stimulated considerable discussion by visitors.

With Japan's shipbuilding industry suffering badly from the world-wide recession in the tanker market, it may not have seemed an opportune time for British equipment suppliers to seek to expand their business in Japan. However, with Japan now looking to secure orders for a much wider variety of ship types, a re-introduction of established equipment and a showing of new products not previously ordered in Japan is timely and helps to cement the friendly relations which British suppliers enjoy with their customers and agents there. It also demonstrates a faith in an ultimate world revival in shipbuilding.

As the Japanese anticipate building more of the sophisticated types of ships, requiring special and advanced equipment, in the future, they have shown a considerable interest in British equipment so that they can benefit from the expertise which has made possible the development of equipment specifically for these more complicated vessels.

An estimated 1,000 visitors attended the exhibition and seminar during the five days, and although this is not a high number when compared with other, larger marine exhibitions, it is about the average figure for BEMC functions. Also, attendance was adversely affected by the proximity of Japan's 'Golden Week' of holidays, resulting in some potential visitors extending their holiday into the exhibition period, and more particularly by a nation wide rail, postal and telecommunications strike which prevented many people from Japan's widely located shipyards from attending. The quality of visitor was excellent being principally comprised of top management executives. Several exhibitors reported receiving very serious inquiries with every expectation that these will be turned into firm orders in coming months

for business valued at between a quarter and half a million pounds sterling for some companies.

After the exhibition closed, members of the mission spent a further week in Japan pursuing their own individual travel programmes in order to contact potential customers.

An advance party of the mission had previously made a 10-day visit to Korea while en route to Tokyo where, according to Mr. Donald Maxwell, Director of BMEC 'the market is vitally important to the equipment industry and we intend to demonstrate our ability to compete for the very substantial business available. We feel we have a great deal to offer, particularly in the fields of equipment with a high technology content.'

There is no question that all those engaged in the marine industry, whether operating or building ships, or supplying equipment, are entering a period of intense competition. As from now, British shipyards can expect the Japanese to try and get the order, as one very senior Japanese official put it 'for anything that floats'.

On the marine equipment scene, as Japan's equipment suppliers no longer have a huge, captive domestic market to fill, they will also be seeking business in Europe and elsewhere in order to utilise their output capacity.

Japan's inflation rate, last year running at 25-30 per cent is now down to about 14 per cent; the spring wage offensive has resulted in a moderate, by British standards, wage increase of about 13-15 per cent, and these factors have already allowed Japanese yards to return to offering fixed price contracts for ships and some equipment suppliers to reduce their prices when compared with last year.

And so it can be seen that the task ahead of Britain's marine equipment suppliers is not an easy one. Keen pricing policies and strict adherence to delivery dates are the order of the day. However, the industry is in good heart and ready to respond to the challenge.

Full range of products and services at Medica '75

From L. W. Zonneveld, Commercial Officer, British Embassy, The Hague: Medica '75 was staged in the halls of the Royal Netherlands Industries Fair in Utrecht and is considered to be the largest exhibition of its kind in the world. It gave an opportunity to inspect a full range of products and services available from international industries providing care for the sick. The Exhibition concentrated on the total needs of a hospital which included, apart from medical instruments and disposables, beds, communications systems, diagnostic and therapeutic instruments, administration systems, and catering equipment.

During the Fair three lectures were held under the auspices of the National Hospital Council of the Netherlands. In the Irene Hall there was a small specialised exhibition called 'For colleagues by colleagues' where inventions by Dutch doctors were shown, which might be useful for other doctors specialising in the same subject.

In the same hall British manufacturers showed their health care products in a combined joint venture stand sponsored by the Department of Trade in co-operation with the British Hospital Export Council. The joint venture consisted of nine very attractive stands where the firms displayed their products and an Information Stand manned by the British Hospital Export Council. The products on show ranged from medical instruments for use in physiology and pharmacy, biology and intensive care to bed head systems, colostomy sets, catheters, medical and surgical disposable products, infusion systems and orthopaedic appliances to waterbed systems and sophisticated hospital cleaning equipment.

Three of the British exhibitors did not have agents in the Netherlands but by the end of the exhibition they reported that they had received inquiries from various Dutch importers/distributors interested in local distribution on an exclusive basis.

Moscow communications

A group of 18 British firms are taking part in SVYAZ '75, the Moscow Communications Systems and Equipment Exhibition, which closes on 5 June. This is the first major international exhibition of its kind to take place in Moscow.

The firms are sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board in association with the Electronic Engineering Association. The British companies will be showing a wide variety of electronic equipment including multi-spindle circuits, cable assemblies, telegraph converters, telecommunications test equipment, copier duplicating machines, and colour television monitors.

The Post Office will be exhibiting specialised telecommunication vehicles in an open-air space adjacent to the British stands.

Fashion at Munich

From W. R. Jupe, British Vice-Consul (Commercial), Munich: For the 31st time between 6-10 April fashion houses from many countries presented their collections at the Munich International Fashion Week. Of the 46 British firms exhibiting (most of whom displayed an autumn/winter collection) 29 co-operated in a joint venture between the Clothing Export Council and the British Overseas Trade Board.

The Munich Fashion Week was unusually timed because there were three international fashion fairs being held in Western Europe at the same time, at Munich, Paris and London. This meant that buyers had to cover three fairs within the week and the result was a better-than-usual first two days, when many buyers were in Munich, followed by relative calm for the rest of the fair when the buyers had left for Paris and London. Needless to say when a trade fair starts so well for the exhibitors they are doubly disappointed when their optimism is suddenly dispelled by the disappearance of a large proportion of the potential customers. This clashing of the Munich, Paris and London fashion weeks and the resultant lighter traffic through the halls disappointed many British exhibitors. However, others, despite the presence of fewer buyers, were extremely successful. For example, Dandelion estimated their sales to be up some 200 per cent to Austria, 120-100 per cent to Switzerland and 20 per cent to Germany when compared with their last showing at the Munich fashion week.

Nonetheless it cannot be denied that the Spring Munich Fashion Week was a difficult fair for all exhibitors. However, for most, the fair was not disastrous and the majority of British exhibitors said they would take part again in the next Munich International Fashion Week which takes place from 5-9 October. Firms interested in participating should obtain details from the Clothing Export Council of Great Britain, 26-28 Sackville Street, London W1X 1DA, or British Overseas Trade Board, Fairs and Promotions Branch, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7HU.

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Trade, tries out a fork lift truck by Coventry Climax Engines Ltd. of Coventry during his visit to the National Industrial Production and Machine Tool Show which was held in Toronto from 12-16 May.

Trade Information

In the absence overseas of the Secretary of State for Trade, the delegation from the Republic of Cuba was received at the Department of Trade by Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (third from the right). Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Vice Prime Minister of Cuba (third from the left) is seen accompanied by (from the left) Rene Anillo, First Vice Minister, Ministry of External Relations, Angel Gomez Trueba, Minister of Industrial Development, Ricardo Cabrisas, First Vice Minister, Ministry of External Commerce (second from right), and Ernetso Melendez Bachs, Vice President of the National Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Collaboration.

Anglo-Cuban Economic and Industrial Co-operation Agreement

A high-level Cuban delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez visited the UK from 18 to 23 May to sign the Anglo-Cuban Economic and Industrial Co-operation Agreement. The agreement provides for the setting up of a Joint Commission, to meet annually alternately in Cuba and the UK, and it is expected that this body will establish the framework for industrial co-operation and establish the part British industry can play in the development of Cuba.

Of particular interest is the Cuban five-year plan (1976-80) which will be fully taken into account in the Joint Commission discussions. It is felt that the agreement will provide new opportunities for British industry in this rapidly expanding market.

Britain and Iraq agree on new economic co-operation joint committee

Britain and Iraq have agreed to set up a Joint Governmental Committee on economic, industrial and technical co-operation. Arrangements are now in hand for formal signature. The agreement follows the visit to Baghdad recently by a senior official of the Department of Trade.

The purpose of the Committee will be to stimulate the involvement of British firms in development projects in Iraq, and to provide access for Iraqi organisations to British technology.

It is hoped that the first meeting of the Committee may take place in London in the early summer in order that suitable projects and programmes of co-operation may be drawn up.

UK-Iraqi trade has been as follows:

	1973	1974	1974 Jan.-Mar.	1975 Jan.-Mar.
Exports from UK	27.1	59.8	11.2	27.0
Imports to UK	30.7	106.6	24.6	25.5

ECGD news

Line of credit for France to buy capital goods

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £2 million line of credit to enable buyers in France to place contracts in the United Kingdom for capital goods and associated services worth £2.5 million.

Williams and Glyn's Bank have made the finance available to Credit Commercial de France SA who will nominate the contracts to be included under this line of credit.

To qualify under this line of credit a contract must have a minimum value of £10,000 and be placed by 31 March 1976. UK suppliers will receive 80 per cent of the contract price from the loan after shipment of the goods; the remaining 20 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources.

Exporters interested in further details of this facility should contact either Mr. R. R. Singh, of ECGD (tel. 01-606 6699, ext. 615), or Miss F. S. Goodchild, of Williams and Glyn's (tel. 01-626 5400).

Afternoon seminar on Japan

An afternoon seminar on the Japanese market is being held by the London Chamber of Commerce on 11 June. The first objective is to brief members of the Chamber's mission to Japan (and Hong Kong) in October, but the seminar is open to all.

Mr. E. J. Field, First Secretary in the Commercial Department of the British Embassy, Tokyo, will conduct a session on marketing capital goods. David Wilson of David Wilson and Partners will speak on direct exporting, Sadao Oba of Mitsui on the role of trading companies, and Brian Birchley of Davy Power Gas on licensing and co-operation with Japanese firms in third markets.

With Japan's balance of payments moving into surplus over the past few months and a sharp reduction in the inflation rate having been achieved, there are grounds for expecting the economy to forge ahead in the autumn.

The seminar at 2 pm on 11 June at the London Chamber of Commerce, Council Chambers, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB. The cost will be £5 plus VAT for members of the Chamber's Asia and Pacific Division and £6 plus VAT for others. Details can be obtained from: Miss D. Wright, Japan Section of the London Chamber of Commerce (tel. 01-248 4444).

Mozambique: industrial property

Information has been received from an unofficial source that, consequent upon the independence of Mozambique, applications for patents, designs or trade marks rights should, from 11 June 1975, he made to the competent authority in Mozambique.

It is understood that applications for patents and designs rights made in Portugal up to 10 June 1975 will relate also to Mozambique; the position is not clear as regards the critical date for applications for the registration of trade marks, as only those registrations effected in Portugal before 11 June 1975 may be extended to Mozambique.

Inquiries: Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AY (tel. 01-405 8721, ext. 5243).

Tariff and Trade Notices

Belgium and Luxembourg

Import licensing. The *Moniteur Belge* No. 83, 29 April 1975, published two decrees dated 17 and 18 April 1975, amending the decree of 20 March 1973 concerning import licensing. Import licences are now required for the following goods when of non-EEC origin and imported from the United Kingdom: knitted or crocheted under and outer garments; outer garments, other than knitted or crocheted, and zip fasteners. The BN tariff headings involved are 60.04, 60.05, 61.01, 61.02 and 98.02. The decrees entered into force on 29 April 1975 and 1 May 1975, respectively. Copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Netherlands

Import licensing: clothing. The *Nederlandse Staatscourant* of 9 May 1975 contains Regulation 6 May 1975 No. 675/290 under which, with effect from 10 May 1975 and until further notice, an import licence is required for clothing classified under Dutch tariff headings 60.04, 60.05, 61.01 and 61.02.

The licence has to be obtained by the Dutch importer. There is no quantitative restriction on the import of these goods originating from the United Kingdom. No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

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Spain

Customs tariff modifications. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 11 April 1975, announced modifications to the Spanish customs tariff. Subheadings are modified to read as follows:

Tariff no.	Description	Import duty
26.03.A	Ash and residues containing lead:	
1	Containing 30% or over	3%
2	Containing less than 30%	Free
B	Ash and residues containing zinc	Free
C	Ashes and residues of precious metals	Free
D	Other	Free
29.31.C	Thiocarbamates and thiurams:	
1	Esters of thiocarbamates and thiurams	Free
2	Other	17%
30.01.A	Anterior and posterior lobes of the pituitary gland, extracts of heart, prostate gland, thalamus, cartilage, bone marrow, brain, duodenum, stomach and bone	Free
B	Other	22.5%
38.19.F	Mixed alkylphenols and their salts and esters:	
* 1	Octylphenol and nonylphenol	1%
2	Other	1%
39.02.J	Hydrocarbon and coumaro-indene resins	20%
70.04.G	Plate glass, thicker than 4 mm., with other dimensions not exceeding 400 mm.	1%
70.06.E	Polished plate glass, unwired, thicker than 4 mm., with other dimensions not exceeding 400 mm.	1%
70.10.A	Bottles, jars, pots, syphon vases, demijohns, carboys and similar containers, other than of the natural colour of discoloured:	
1	Neither cut, emery-ground, engraved nor decorated	20%
2	Cut, emery-ground, engraved or decorated	20%
B	Jars, pots and other similar containers, other than of the natural colour or discoloured:	
1	Neither cut, emery-ground, engraved nor decorated	20%
2	Cut, emery-ground, engraved or decorated	20%
C	Articles of subheadings A and B above, of the natural colour or discoloured:	
1	Of glass with a low coefficient of expansion	10%
2	Of neutral glass	20%
3	Of glass containing at least 18% of oxide	20%
4	Of ordinary glass	32%
D	Tubular containers, of all kinds	32%
E	Stoppers and the like	5.5%
84.59.E	Winding machines for winding electric wires on to armatures, inductors and similar coils for motors, transformers, etc.	14% Maximum specific duty: 250,000 pesetas per unit

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473

Newsprint – home compensation tax. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 6 May 1975, published decree 921/1975 reducing to a temporary concessional rate of 1.5 per cent home compensation tax levy from 1 April until 30 June 1975 on newsprint intended exclusively for the publication of daily newspapers; tariff heading 48.01A.1 and on newsprint imported under the duty-free quota; tariff heading 48.01.A.2. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Foodstuffs: import regulations. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 18 April 1975, published decree 797/1975 which defines rules in the control of foodstuffs sold in Spain, either imported or locally produced. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Feedstuffs. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 23 April 1975, published decree 851/1975 of the Ministry of Agriculture establishing a new set of rules for the ingredients and products to be used in the manufacture of feedingstuffs, either imported or locally manufactured. Copies of the Spanish text are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Sierra Leone

Bleaches: import licensing. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 11 April 1975, page 92, announced publication of Government Notice No. 271 – Specific Import Licence 1975. This notice has been amended by the following Government Notice published in the *Sierra Leone Gazette*, 17 April.

Govt. Notice No. 349
NOTICE TO IMPORTERS
Government Notice No. 271 published in the *Sierra Leone Gazette* of 25 March 1975 is hereby amended as follows:
554-200 Detergents (bleaches)

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473/472/471/462

Exports to Iraq: Report highlights new opportunities

A report designed to stimulate and encourage British industry's interest in Iraq has been published. It highlights export opportunities which exist in Iraq now for those companies who can respond with the necessary speed.

The report has been prepared by the Department of Trade's International Technological Collaboration Unit and is issued by the Middle East Division (Commercial Relations and Exports Division 5).

Copies of the report, 'Economic Development in Iraq', are available from CRE 5, Department of Trade, Room 309, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel. 01-215 3419).

Information on major projects in other Middle East oil producing countries is also available.

British Shipping Law Series No. 5

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by
David M. Sassoon, M.JUR (Jerusalem), D.PHIL.(Oxon)

The first edition of this book in 1968 was widely used as a comprehensive and detailed guide to the law and practice of these two important types of international sales contracts. Since 1968 world trade has expanded rapidly and c.i.f. and f.o.b. contracts in various jurisdictions have developed in response. This second edition includes, therefore, an analysis of over sixty new decisions from various countries, and takes full account of appropriate legislations: the Uniform Laws on International Sales Act, 1967, and the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act 1973.

The last few years have also witnessed considerable technological changes. These include the increasing transport of freight by air, and perhaps even more important, the container revolution and the development of the combined transport concept. All these have begun to exert influence on traditional patterns of trade and on the customary trade terms—in fact on the accepted rules which have governed c.i.f. and f.o.b. law for so long. These developments are considered by the author, and account is taken of the efforts of the International Chamber of Commerce to prepare definitions of new forms of c.i.f. and f.o.b. for use in contracts involving these modern modes of transport, although these terms are, of course, not complete.

1975 **£15.50** *net*

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Kuwait

Labelling of foodstuffs. It has come to light that paragraph 5.4 (reproduced below) is missing from the unofficial translation of Kuwait Specifications 42/1973:

5.4 If the prepackaged food substance contains any authorised additives, such as preservative, bleaching or colouring matter, etc., the same shall be shown on the list of ingredients.

Copies of the official version are now available to British exporters on request from OTAR ext. 475/420.

Tunisia

Import duty and production tax amendments. It has been announced in the Tunisian *Official Journal* 27-1975, 22 April 1975, that the following products are now exempt from customs duties:

1 B.N. 10.05 Maize
BN 23.04 Oil cake
BN 25.27 Agricultural Talc
2 The duty on non-assembled trailers with parts and accessories under BN 87.14 is now 6 per cent.
3 Production tax at 8 per cent has now been applied to the following products
BN 23.04 Oil cake
BN 23.07 Animal feedstuffs

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Nigeria

Industrial standards. Government Notice No. 341 published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria *Official Gazette*, 13 March 1975, announced the establishment of Nigerian industrial standards as follows:

Nigerian Standards Organisation Decree 1971
(1971 No. 56)
ESTABLISHMENT OF NIGERIAN INDUSTRIAL STANDARDS

It is notified for general information that for purposes of sections 3 (1) (*b*) and 8 of the Nigerian Standards Organisation Decree, the Nigerian Standards Council has established the following Nigerian Industrial Standards:

NIS.01 UDC: 662.53	Specifications for safety matches
NIS.02 UDC: 677.016.474	Method for the determination washing fastness of coloured textiles
NIS.03 UDC: 621.326	Specifications for tungsten filament lamps for general services
NIS.04 UDC: 668.184.2	Specifications for toilet soap
NIS.05 UDC: 668.5	Specifications for hard laundry soap
NIS.06 UDC: 621.316.621.315	Specifications for wood poles
NIS.07 UDC: 621.35	Specifications for dry cells and batteries
NIS.08 UDC: 678.06.621.642.1	Nigerian standards on plastic buckets made from polyethlene
NIS.09 UDC: 678.675.687.972.2	Nigerian standard on nylon tooth brushes
NIS.10 UDC: 678.675	Specifications for nylon monofilaments
NIS.11 UDC: 666.94	Specifications for ordinary Portland cement
NIS.22 UDC: 621.642.1.678.742.2	Specifications for plastic bowls made from polyethlene
NIS.23 UDC: 69.025.35	Specifications for flexible PVC flooring
NIS.24 UDC: 665.14: 665.41	Standard for paraffin wax candles
NIS.25 UDC: 621.316.71.661.73/85	Specifications for lead acid starter batteries (electrical characteristics)
NIS.26 UDC: 677.01: 535.68: 628.92	Method of assessing fastness of coloured textiles to artificial light (carbon or xenon arc) (lamp test)
NIS.27 UDC: 677.01: 535.68: 628.93	Standard methods for assessing fastness to coloured textiles to daylight
NIS.28 UDC: 677.064: 620.177	Method for determination of recovery of fabrics from creasing
NIS.29 UDC: 621.642.1: 669.15	Specifications for galvanised steel buckets for general use
NIS.31 UDC: 637.127: 54 14	Standard for liquid milk
NIS.32 UDC: 669.1.669.58 543.061	Method of test for simple galvanised coatings on iron and steel products
NIS.33 UDC: 669.426: 539 412/414	Method of simple torsion and tensile testing for steel wire
NIS.34 UDC: 678.01: 620	Method of test for vulcanised natural and synthetic rubbers
NIS.35 UDC: 69.025.356: 678.743	Specifications for PVC (vinyl) asbestos floor tiles
NIS.36 UDC: 321.315.67: 678.067	Specifications for unplasticised polyvynyl chloride (UPVC) conducts for electrical insulation
NIS.37 UDC: 686.865.76	Specifications for ball point pens
NIS.38 UDC: 686.863.761	Specifications for ball point pen refills
NIS.39 UDC: 686/863.762	Specifications for ball point ink
NIS.40 UDC: 685.3: 620.16	Specifications for footwear (performance requirements)
NIS.41 UDC: 685.312	Specifications for sole leather
NIS.44 UDC: 685.312	Specifications for glazed kid for upper shoe
NIS.45 UDC: 685.2: 620.16	Method of sampling and testing of vegetable and chrome tanned leathers
NIS.46 UDC: 697.9	Specifications for room air-conditioners
NIS.47 UDC: 697.9: 628.84	Rating and testing of room air-conditioners
NIS.48 UDC: 738.4: 620.16	Specifications for enamelware for home use
NIS.49 UDC: 681.854	Standard for processed disc records
NIS.50 UDC: 663.5	Standard for niru (alcholic beverage)
NIS.51 UDC: 677.01: 535.68	Method for the determination of colour fastness to perspiration
NIS.52 UDC: 677.064: 620.16	Test method for determination of changes in the dimensions of fabrics
NIS.53 UDC: 678.664.620.16	Method of testing polyurethane foam 'part I – indentation hardness characteristic'
NIS.54 UDC: 678.664	Method of testing polyurethane foam 'part II – indentation hardness index'
NIS.55 UDC: 691.11	The use of timber in building
NIS.56 UDC: 669.018	Specifications for mild steel wire for general purposes
NIS.57 UDC: 648.18: 668.1	Specification for detergents (heavy duty)
NCP.1 – Part I (Building Code) UDC: 691.32-699.8/.887	The structural use of concrete in building
NCP.1 – Part III (Building Code) UDC: 091.32-699.8/887	Loading

These National Standards give specifications to manufacturers in their production process and also the quality characteristics which consumers require as well as the necessary test methods.

Copies of these Standards can be purchased from the Librarian, Nigerian Standards Organisation, Federal Ministry of Industries, 11 Kofo Abayoni Road, Victoria Island, Lagos, or they will be available from the Standards Library, British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London W1.

Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 3064/3338.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section,
Export Data Branch
Export Services and Promotions Division
Department of Trade
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Pakistan

Second-hand machinery and tractors. Under new guidelines issued by the Department of Investment Promotion and Supplies, the Government of Pakistan will permit the import of second-hand/rebuilt machinery and second-hand tractors against externally-held foreign exchange.

Such machinery may be financed out of the earnings of Pakistan nationals working abroad or by foreign investors in Pakistan, the latter being permitted remittance of profits, dividends, etc. in respect of this investment. Copies of these guidelines are available to British exporters on request. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Australia

Temporary protection: industrial leather gloves. The Department of Manufacturing Industry in Australia has received a request for temporary protection against imports of industrial leather gloves falling within item 42.03.100 of the Australian Customs Tariff.

Requests for temporary protection are received initially by the Department of Manufacturing Industry and, after examination, are submitted to the Special Minister of State for consideration. The Special Minister of State may refer the request to a Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report. Any temporary protection which may be accorded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of a holding action pending Government consideration of the general question of protection for the local industry following inquiry and report by the Industries Assistance Commission.

Exporters should note that the Australian Prime Minister has made it clear that, should the need for urgent action emerge from these inquiries, goods ordered overseas but not cleared for home consumption at the date of the announcement, will be subject to the terms of the action. Australian importers have been urged therefore to exercise caution in placing orders overseas and in entering into financial commitments on such orders, as special consideration may not be given to outstanding commitments should action be taken by the Government.

Evidence must be formally submitted at a public hearing, either by a nominated representative of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447), who will represent UK interests if authorised. The Association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay through their accredited agent, indicating the goods with which they are concerned, and the request they anticipate submitting.

Ref. CRE 951/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Brazil

Proposed duty changes. The Brazilian authorities have announced the following proposed duty changes:

Colour television sets. Customs Policy Council Edital 723, published in the *Diario Oficia l da Uniao*, 7 March 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in import duty on colour television tubes, of heading 85.21.02.01, from 40 per cent to 85 per cent.

Polycarbonate sheet. Customs Policy Council Edital 724, published in the *Diario Oficial da Uniao*, 12 March 1975, gave notice of a proposed reduction in duty on polycarbonate sheet of a thickness between 0.002 mm. and 0.008 mm., of heading 39.01.04.99 from 85 per cent to 15 per cent.

Electronic calculators. Customs Policy Council Edital 725, published in the *Diario Oficial da Uniao*, 19 March 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in import duty on electronic calculators, of heading 84.52.02.99, from 30 per cent to 60 per cent.

Stainless steel wire. Customs Policy Council Edital 726, published in the *Diario Oficial da Uniao*, 20 March 1975, gave notice of a proposed duty change on stainless steel wire, not coated, of less than 0.10 mm. or more than 1 mm. in the major dimension of the transversal section, of heading 73.15.20.01, from 20 per cent to 45 per cent.

Electrical appartus. Customs Policy Council Edital 727, published in the *Diario Oficial da Uniao*, 21 March 1975, gave notice of proposed duty changes on the following electrical apparatus:

Brushes for electrical equipment of heading 85.08 falling under heading 85.24.03.00
Plates for brushes for electrical equipment of heading 85.08 falling under heading 85.24.99.00.

The proposed increase is from 17 per cent to 47 per cent.

Chemicals. Customs Policy Council Edital 728, published in the *Diario Oficial da Uniao*, 21 March 1975, gave notice of a proposed import duty change from 30 per cent to 60 per cent on the following goods:

Stearic acid, heading 29.14.12.01
Oleic acid, heading 29.14.16.01.
Aluminium stearate, heading 29.14.12.02.
Butyl stearate, heading 29.14.12.03.
Calcium stearate, heading 29.14.12.04.
Lead stearate, heading 29.14.12.05.
Ethyl stearate, heading 29.14.12.06.
Lithium stearate, heading 29.14.12.07.
Magnesium stearate, heading 29.14.12.08.
Mercury stearate, heading 29.14.12.09.
Zinc stearate, heading 29.14.12.99.

Carbon tetrachloride and tetrachloroethylene. Customs Policy Council Edital 729, published in the *Diario Oficial da Uniao*, 24 March 1975, gave notice of proposed import duty changes on carbon tetrachloride of heading 29.02.27.00 and tetrachloroethylene of heading 29.02.28.00. The proposed changes are from 20-50 per cent and 30-55 per cent respectively.

Magnetic tape. Customs Policy Council Edital 731, published in the *Diario Oficial da Uniao*, 31 March 1975, gave notice of proposed changes in the duty on magnetic tape. It is proposed to raise the duty from 30 per cent to 60 per cent on the following goods:

Unrecorded magnetic tape, heading 92.12.02.00.
Tape in cartridge or cassette form, of any width, heading 92.12.02.01.
In roll or spool, of a width of 6.35 mm. heading 92.12.02.02.
In roll or spool, of a width of 12.70 mm. heading 92.12.02.03.
In roll or spool, of a width of 25.40 mm. heading 92.12.02.04.
Others, heading 92.12.02.99.
Tape for uses similar to sound recording tape; heading 92.12.06.00.

Milling Machines. Customs Policy Council Edital 732, published in the *Diario Oficial da Iniao*, 2 April 1975, gave notice of a proposed change in import duty on universal milling machines having a table of over 1,500 mm. in length and a net weight of over 2,500 kg. The proposed change reduces import duty from 45 per cent to 20 per cent.

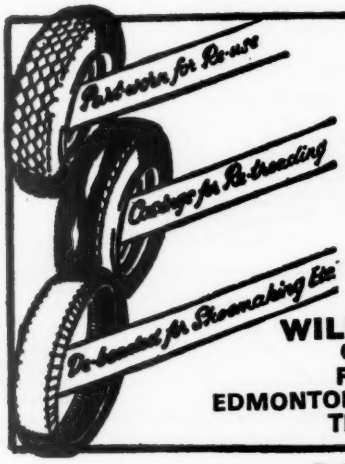
No further information is available at present, but it will be published as soon as it is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

JAPAN DISSATISFIED WITH THE LIMITED RESULTS ACHIEVED THROUGH AGENTS AND DISTRIBUTORS?

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES await enterprising British manufacturers in the form of joint venture operations, wholly owned subsidiaries, branch sales operations and technological licence agreements in Japan. But in order to ensure that the best possible advantage is taken of such opportunities, it is absolutely essential to appoint a local representative possessing the necessary expertise and connections to act on your behalf. As Advisers and Consultants with years of experience of negotiations with the Japanese in the above sectors, we are pleased to offer our specialised services, which also include market research.

Mr. Rock from our Tokyo office is now stationed in the U.K. He may be reached by telephone at Poole 79820, day or night, and is available for consultations with clients on the spot whenever necessary.

G. INOUYE, Managing Director
RAYDEN (JAPAN) LTD, Shokin Building, 11-12, 8-chome, Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan. Tel: 571-9023/5. Telex: J26847 (Raydenco).
Cables: Raydenco, TOKYO



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European Community

EEC/Greece Association Agreement: Additional Protocol signed

An Additional Protocol extending the provisions of the 1962 EEC/Greece Association Agreement to the new Member States, was signed in Brussels on 28 April. Since ratification by all the Member States and Greece is likely to take some time, the trade provisions will be brought into force on 1 July this year by an Interim Agreement which was also signed on 28 April.

The Association Agreement, which was the first and one of the more far reaching of the Community's Mediterranean agreements, provides for full customs union between the Community and Greece by 1984.

Two timetables

Under the agreement the Six already give duty-free entry to all Greek industrial goods and to a wide range of agricultural products. As far as elimination of Greek duties on EEC goods is concerned, there are two timetables; one of 12 years' duration and the other of 22 years.

The 12-year timetable came to an end in November 1974 and approximately 60 per cent of the Community's exports to Greece are now duty-free. Duties on the goods covered by the 22-year timetable have already been reduced by 36 per cent, will be reduced by a further 8 per cent on 1 November 1975 and will be duty-free by 1 November 1984.

Other provisions

The Association Agreement also contains provisions concerning financial assistance agricultural harmonisation, the movement of labour, competition, taxation matters, approximation of laws and economic policy.

During the period of the 'Colonels' regime from 1967 to 1974 these provisions were 'frozen' so that the first Financial Protocol – which set out the terms under which the EEC Member States contributed to the development of Greek economy through the European Investment Bank (EIB) – lapsed. At the same time negotiations on the other provisions ceased.

Now that the agreement has been 'unfrozen' the Greeks have asked for a second Financial Protocol to be negotiated and for talks to be restarted on agricultural harmonisation.

Additional Protocol

The Additional Protocol extends the provisions of the Association Agreement between the Six and Greece to the three new members of the Community, Britain, Ireland and Denmark.

The first provides for the new Member States to reduce their 1972 pre-accession tariffs on Greek industrial goods by 60 per cent on 1 July this year, by 80 per cent on 1 January 1976 and by 100 per cent on 1 July 1977.

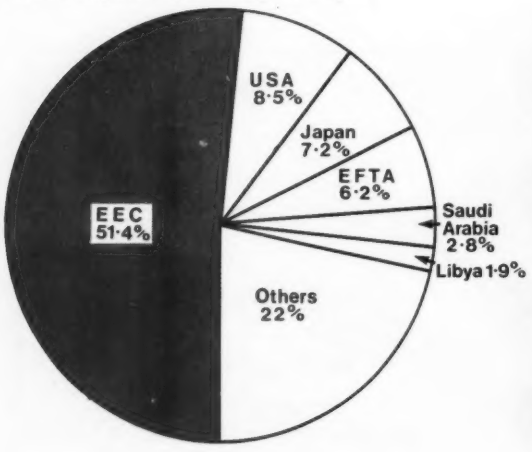
The second provision stipulates that Britain, Denmark and Ireland will eliminate most of their agricultural tariffs over a period ending on 31 December 1977. The first reduction of 60 per cent will be made on 1 July this year, followed by 80 per cent on 1 January 1976 and 100 per cent on 1 July 1977. This does not apply to horticultural goods where the reductions will be 40 per cent on 1 July next, 60 per cent on 1 January 1976, 80 per cent on 1 January 1977 and 100 per cent on 1 January 1980.

Thirdly, in 1975 and 1976 the UK will open an annual tariff quota of 6,000 hl for Greek wines of CCT Heading No. 22.05 at the rates of duty which applied to imports from the Six on 1 January 1975.

Finally, for her part, Greece will eliminate the difference between the duties she charges the Six and those she charges the new Member States in three stages; by 60 per cent on 1 July this year, by 80 per cent on 1 January 1976 and by 100 per cent on 1 January 1977. This means that from July 1977 onwards goods from the new Member States will receive the same tariff treatment as those from the rest of the

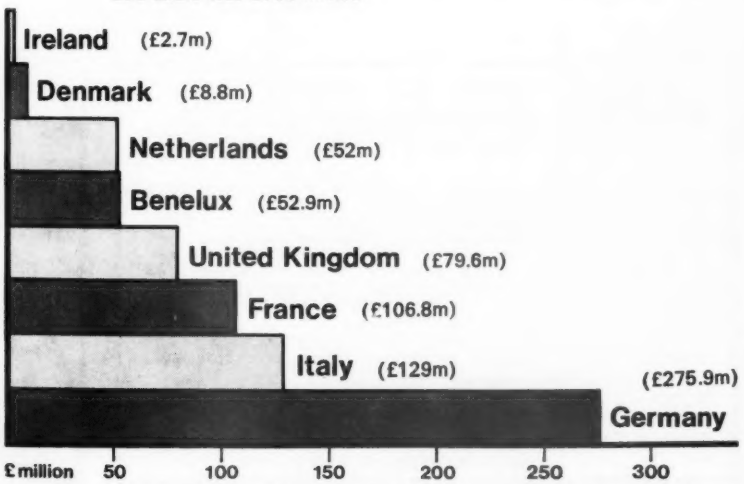
The EEC share of the Greek market

Greek imports by country of origin



Imports by EEC Member States

Total Greek imports in 1973 amounted to £1,413 million, of which the EEC share was £708 million



(Source: Bulletin Mensuel de Statistique du Commerce Exterieur. Jan-Dec 1973)

Community; approximately 60 per cent will be duty-free and duties on the rest will be progressively reduced until they are abolished in 1984.

Origin rules

The preferential arrangements for goods imported from and exported to Greece are based, in general, on free circulation and compensatory levy, and are similar to the arrangements applied within the Community. Certain olives and derivatives must be 'wholly produced' in Greece and consigned direct in order to qualify for preferential rates of duty.

Documentation

The general conditions for preferential treatment and the special conditions for the admission from Greece of olives and derivatives at preferential rates of duty or levy are described in Customs Notice 811, already available. Transitional arrangements are described in Supplementary Customs Notice 811B, which requires to be read in conjunction with Customs Notice 811. The Supplementary Notice and Movement Certificates AG1 and AG3, which will be required to establish preferential treatment for United Kingdom exports to Greece, will be available from 23 June this year at any Custom House or Office of a Collector of Customs and Excise in the United Kingdom or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, Room 357, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE. These Movement Certificates must be presented to Customs before the goods are exported, but will not be accepted for certification prior to 1 July this year.

There is no general provision for retrospective certification of Movement Certificates. However, goods in free circulation which have been consigned direct from the United Kingdom or from Greece after 28 April 1975 and which, on 1 July, are either in transit or are warehoused in Greece or in the United Kingdom, may obtain preferential treatment subject to the presentation, by 31 October next, of Certificate AG1 endorsed retrospectively by the competent authorities of the exporting State together with documentary evidence of through transit.

For this purpose, so far as warehouses in the United Kingdom are concerned, 'warehoused' means 'in a warehouse or other premises approved by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise for the storage of goods under bond'.

The conditions and documentation for postal traffic between Greece and EEC Member States are the same as those for intra Community postal traffic as described in Customs Notice 750, para. 44, now available.

Inquiries

Inquiries arising from this article should be addressed to:

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE

1 Commercial Relations and Exports,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET
Tel. 01-215 3707 (general inquiries)

2 General Division,
Kingsgate House,
66-74 Victoria Street,
London SW1E 6SJ
Tel. 01-215 5488 (UK tariffs on imports from Greece) 01-215 5750 (Origin Rules) 01-215 5490 (UK tariff quotas)

3 Overseas Tariff and Regulation Section,
Export Data Branch,
Export House,
50 Ludgate Hill,
London EC4 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757, exts. 439, 408 (import duties, taxes, etc., on exports to Greece) ext. 408, 482, 7174 (import duties, taxes, etc., on imports from Greece into EEC, other than UK)

HM CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

International Division D,
King's Beam House,
39-41 Mark Lane,
London EC3R 7HE
Tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2565 (customs documentation and procedure)

New EC Legislation

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference points given at the end of the item.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. The texts of the following Regulations, Decisions, and Directive which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Fish and fish products. Regulation (EEC) 1182/75 supplementing Annexes I (A) and IV (B) to Regulation (EEC) 2142/70 on the common organisation of the market in fishery products. (*Official Journal* L118, 8 May 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1183/75 fixing for the 1975 fishing year a guide price for hake. (*Official Journal* L118, 8 May 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1195/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 3326/74 fixing for the 1975 fishing year reference prices for fishery products. (*Official Journal* L118, 8 May 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1196/75 supplementing Regulation (EEC) 1109/71 on detailed rules for determining the entry price for certain fishery products. (*Official Journal* L118, 8 May 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1242/75 supplementing Regulation (EEC) 3559/73 as regards hake. (*Official Journal* L125, 16 May 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1243/75 fixing the withdrawal price and reference prices for hake listed in Annexes I (A) and IV (B) to Regulation (EEC) 2142/70 for the 1975 fishing year. (*Official Journal* L125, 16 May 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 1244/75 amending the Annex to Regulation (EEC) 2518/70 on the determination of wholesale markets and representative ports for products in the fishery sector by the insertion of the following at Part I, point 11:

11. Meruls Bremerhaven
Cuxhaven
Hamburg
La Rochelle
Lorient.

Regulation (EEC) 1245/75 extending the period of validity of protective measures in respect of the import of tunny for industrial

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

manufacture laid down in Regulation (EEC) 460/75. (*Official Journal* L125, 16 May 1975)

Animal feedingstuffs. Directive 75/267/EEC amending the Annexes to Directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives on feedingstuffs. (*Official Journal* L118, 8 May 1975)

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Decision 75/286/EEC authorising Italy to permit for a period expiring on 31 July 1975 the marketing of seed of sunflower not complying with the requirements in the Directive 69/208/EEC on the marketing of seed of oil and fibre plants. (*Official Journal* L122, 14 May 1975)

Wine. Decision 75/287/EEC exempting Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom from applying the Directive 68/193/EEC on the marketing of material for the vegetative propagation of the wine. (*Official Journal* L122, 14 May 1975)

Pigs and pigmeat. Decision 75/291/EEC on the limitation in certain Member States of the weight grades in the Community scale for grading pig carcases laid down by Regulation (EEC) 2108/70. (*Official Journal* L122, 14 May 1975)

EEC loan for Ebbw Vale

At a press conference in Cardiff on 21 May, EEC Commissioner for Regional Policy, Mr. George Thompson, announced Commission approval for a £15.55 million loan for the British Steel Corporation.

The money will go towards a £52 million investment project for the extension and modernisation of a tin plate works at Ebbw Vale.

Economic Indicators of the EEC

These tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves; international publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented by later reports where possible. In addition to the Member States of the EEC, the United States and Japan have been included for comparison.

The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned.

An extensive bibliography – 'Sources of Statistics: 2. The European Economic Community' – which lists publications in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library of the Department of Trade, is obtainable on request to the library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (Tel: 01-248 5757, ext. 368). 'Statistical News' No. 21 (May 1973), published by the Central Statistical Office, contains a selected bibliography of statistical publications of the Commission of the European Communities.

TABLE 1 Industrial Production (Excluding construction) Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France[1]	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy[4]	Netherlands	United Kingdom	EEC[3,4]	*United States*	*Japan*
Weights in EEC	3.8	0.3	23.5	36.5	0.7	12.6	4.4	18.2	100.0	—	—
Weights in total	1.5	0.1	9.0	14.0	0.2	4.9	1.7	7.0	36.4	*48.4*	*13.1*
1968	88	88	84	83	90	91	81	96	87	*99*	*74*
1969	97	100	94	94	97	94	91	99	95	*104*	*88*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	103	99	104	102	105	100	106	100	102	*100*	*103*
1972	109	103	115	106	109	104	111	102	106	*108*	*110*
1973	115	115	120	114	120	114	118	111	115	*118*	*129*
1974	121	119	124	113		119(e)	121	108		*117*	*126*
1973 1st quarter	115	114	118	113	119	105	115	110	113	*115*	*123*
2nd quarter	114	112	120	114	120	115	116	110	114	*117*	*128*
3rd quarter	115	115	122	114	120	118	119	111	115	*119*	*131*
4th quarter	118	120	122	116	121	118	121	110	116	*119*	*135*
1974 1st quarter	123	125	125	114	127	123	122	104	116	*117*	*132*
2nd quarter	124	119	126	114	124	126	122	110	118	*118*	*129*
3rd quarter	121	120	127	113	121	119	124	111	116	*118*	*125*
4th quarter	117	114	118	109		109	120	107		*114*	*119*
1975 1st quarter	111(e)										
1973 September	115	115	120	116		118	127	111	117	*119*	*132*
October	118	116	122	115		118	130	113	117	*119*	*130*
November	121	126	123	116		118	129	111	118	*119*	*136*
December	114	117	119	116		117	121	106	116	*119*	*134*
1974 January	123	125	125	114		125	121	101	116	*118*	*133*
February	123	127	125	114		122	122	104	118	*117*	*133*
March	123	121	123	114		123	123	107	117	*117*	*131*
April	126	118	124	114		127	119	109	118	*117*	*129*
May	123	118	126	114		124	123	109	118	*118*	*132*
June	123	121	126	114		127	123	110	121	*118*	*127*
July	123	121	129	113		123	124	112		*118*	*128*
August	117	118	129	112		111	125	111		*117*	*124*
September	123	121	122	112		123	124	109		*118*	*124*
October	123	120	122	110		115	123	109		*117*	*122*
November	118	115	118	111		108	122	109		*114*	*120*
December	111	107	115	106		104	115	104		*110*	*114*
1975 January		104	116	97(e)		110	114	108		*107*	*109*
February			116	104(e)		108(e)		107		*103*	
March						108(e)		105			
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	−2.8	−9.2	−4.1	−7.8	−2.3	−6.9	−5.65	−1.55	−1.7	*−8.0*	*−7.3*
On a year earlier	−0.3	−11.41	−6.0	−11.5	+5.0	−11.5	−5.5	+1.6	+0.9	*−9.3*	*−14.9*

[1]Excluding clothing, wood products and furniture.
[2]Mining and manufacturing only.
[3]Excluding Denmark.
[4]Revised figures for Italy from beginning of 1973.
(e) Estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 2 Unemployment seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1,3]	Denmark[1,3]	France[3,4]	German F.R.[5]	Ireland[1]	Italy[4]	Netherlands[3,5]	United Kingdom[3]	*United States*[4]	*Japan*[7]
1968	147	163	97	218	88	113	147	95	*69*	*108*
1969	120	129	85	120	86	108	115	94	*69*	*104*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	100	125	129	126	100	100	135	129	*122*	*111*
1972	123	125	145	166	114	113	235	142	*118*	*119*
1973	130	84	150	184	104	109	239	102	*105*	*107*
1974	148	186	190	391	114	91	294	101	*111*	*117*
1973 1st quarter	127	63	143	150	107	107	243	117	*108*	*111*
2nd quarter	128	104	147	177	105	133	237	106	*106*	*109*
3rd quarter	131	90	153	202	106	100	237	99	*105*	*106*
4th quarter	132	79	158	248	102	96	239	86	*104*	*101*
1974 1st quarter	131	80	168	278	105	86	276	96	*115*	*107*
2nd quarter	137	135	169	383	107	87	268	97	*114*	*111*
3rd quarter	151	204	181	483	114	91	300	106	*123*	*118*
4th quarter	173	326	235	583	133	99	335	107	*148*	*143*
1975 1st quarter	202		279	637				123	*187*	
1973 December	131	78	161	279	102		248	83	*107*	*99*
1974 January	131	82	166	250	105	86	270	94	*116*	*105*
February	131	78	168	268	102		267	97	*116*	*107*
March	131	78	170	315	105		291	96	*113*	*109*
April	134	94	167	360	105	87	265	96	*111*	*110*
May	135	147	168	374	105		267	96	*115*	*111*
June	141	162	172	415	112		272	99	*116*	*112*
July	145	162	176	442	110	91	291	102	*119*	*114*
August	148	201	177	480	114		304	107	*120*	*118*
September	159	248	190	527	121		309	108	*130*	*121*
October	170	310	213	562	126	98	320	107	*136*	*130*
November	172	330	240	580	133		333	107	*147*	*142*
December	180	339	252	605	140		357		*162*	*156*
1975 January	186	431	267	638	157		374	119	*184*	*149*
February	197	395	278	651			389	124	*183*	
March	220		292	624				127	*195*	
April	227		305	758				134	*200*	
Rate %	4.1	3.8	3.7	4.0	5.8	3.1	3.7	3.0	*9.2*	*1.4*
% change latest three months										
On previous three months	+19.7	+31.19	+15.8	+11.3	+19.1	+7.8	+16.4	+15.6	*+17.2*	*+21.1*
On a year earlier	+62.6	+389.5	+73.3	+163.5	+39.1	+2.4	+42.7	+33.2	*+70.0*	*+45.2*

Note: Figures of total unemployment and unemployment rates are very sensitive to the particular measures used and the sources from which they are obtained. The figures in this table to la large extent reflect the different administrative systems and social-security provisions of the countries concerned.

[1]Insured unemployed. [2]Change of basis during period. [3]Monthly data are weekly averages. [4]Unfilled applications. [5]Registered unemployed.
[6]Based on results of sample survey. [7]Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries.
Numbers in latest month available as % of total employees (UK) and of total labour force (others). (e) Estimated. Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 3 Exports (fob) Special trade,[1] seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States*[2]	*Japan*[2]
1968	8,160	2,580	12,708	24,840	792	10,188	8,340	15,348	82,956	*34,416*	*12,972*
1969	10,068	2,952	15,024	29,052	888	11,724	9,960	17,520	97,200	*37,992*	*15,984*
1970	11,592	3,288	17,940	34,188	1,032	13,188	11,772	19,356	112,356	*43,224*	*19,320*
1971	12,081	3,609	20,592	39,009	1,308	15,177	13,953	22,356	128,084	*44,211*	*23,994*
1972	15,995	4,330	25,739	46,208	1,610	18 535	16,392	24,340	153,152	*49,676*	*28,591*
1973	22,317	6,129	35,948	67,701	2,127	22,188	23,946	28,227	210,645	*71,622*	*36,834*
1974	28,137	7,725	45,835	89,085	2,634	30,147		36,480		*98,763*	*55,278*
1973 1st quarter	4,782	1,317	7,772	14,022	465	4,398	5,535	6,497	45,015	*15,417*	*8,277*
2nd quarter	5,235	1,392	8,697	16,026	513	5,283	5,733	7,029	50,556	*16,863*	*8,763*
3rd quarter	6,147	1,722	9,684	18,681	549	6,111	6,108	7,416	57,063	*18,627*	*9,360*
4th quarter	6,153	1,698	9,954	18,702	600	6,396	6,570	7,250	58,011	*20,715*	*10,434*
1974 1st quarter	6,273	1,794	10,464	20,592	591	6,564	7,224	7,982	61,830	*22,455*	*11,298*
2nd quarter	7,393	1,896	11,205	22,803	636	7,176	8,355	9,355	69,459	*24,355*	*13,941*
3rd quarter	7,314	1,953	11,883	22,389	666	8,157	8,400	9,783	71,286	*25,254*	*14,545*
4th quarter	7,158	2,082	12,468	23,274	741	8,250	8,514	9,387	72,501	*26,700*	*15,498*
1975 1st quarter			13,443		984			10,906		*27,298*(e)	*14,703*
1974 January	1,926	530	3,440	6,971	178	1,902	2,199	2,501	19,652	*7,190*	*3,626*
February	1,991	633	3,375	6,757	207	2,140	2,495	2,848	20,454	*7,591*	*3,975*
March	2,264	642	3,505	6,913	205	2,333	2,532	3,070	21,523	*7,638*	*3,672*
April	2,451	603	3,634	7,683	212	2,402	2,786	3,191	22,962	*8,261*	*4,332*
May	2,495	628	3,707	7,997	202	1,190	2,790	3,329	23,338	*7,709*	*4,833*
June	2,487	631	3,826	7,231	217	2,517	2,861	3,304	23,074	*8,301*	*4,853*
July	2,456	637	3,877	7,613	237	2,919	2,982	3,422	24,135	*8,401*	*4,877*
August	2,523	648	3,966	7,578	221	2,606	2,556	3,401	23,533	*8,447*	*5,005*
September	2,339	669	4,039	7,197	208	2,643	2,861	3,526	23,577	*8,460*	*4,664*
October	2,337	674	3,876	7,401	223	2,680	2,793	3,376	23,365	*8,698*	*5,353*
November	2,514	731	4,054	8,076	249	2,671	2,733	3,016	24,252	*9,159*	*5,246*
December	2,307	677	4,537	7,796	269	2,898	2,985	3,228	24,883	*8,841*	*4,897*
1975 January	2,640	732	4,427	7,963	284	2,713		3,690		*9,419*	*5,155*
February	2,783	748	4,669	7,997	265	2,887		3,487		*8,846*	*4,908*
March			4,347		219			3,726		*8,789* (e)	*4,639*
April					251			3,240		*8,716* (e)	
% change in dollar terms latest three months											
On previous three months	+7.5	+4.0	+7.8	+4.8	−8.4	+6.3	+1.4	+5.2	+1.8	*−3.9*	*−5.1*
On a year earlier	+28.8	+24.8	+30.3	+25.3	+17.8	+26.8	+33.9	+14.8	+25.8	*+12.2*	*+30.4*
% change in national currencies latest three months											
On previous three months	+2.6	−2.8	Nil	+10.9	−9.8	+2.2	−3.2	+3.5	−0.8	*+3.9*	*−9.0*
On a earlier year	+13.7	+9.5	+11.5	+11.6	+15.1	+23.9	+16.3	+12.1	+27.0	*+12.2*	*+30.67*

[1]For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2]General trade. [3]Weighted average of percentage changes in national currencies.
* All values are expressed in US dollars, making use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade
All others: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 4 Imports (cif) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States[2,3]*	*Japan[2]*
1968	8,304	3,216	13,980	20,148	1,176	10,248	9,288	18,960	85,320	*33,108*	*12,984*
1969	9,984	3,804	17,388	24,924	1,416	12,444	10,992	19,956	100,908	*36,048*	*15,024*
1970	11,352	4,380	19,116	29,808	1,572	14,940	13,392	21,720	116,280	*39,960*	*18,876*
1971	12,390	4,476	21,261	34,356	1,838	16,026	15,159	23,897	129,403	*45,633*	*19,716*
1972	14,903	4,986	26,696	39,759	2,113	19,252	17,127	27,831	152,643	*55,819*	*23,463*
1973	21,762	7,425	37,587	54,465	2,775	27,858	24,419	38,724	215,013	*69,126*	*38,331*
1974	28,890	9,393	52,980	69,006	3,801	41,076		54,627		*77,420*	*62,034*
1972 1st quarter	3,573	1,185	6,354	9,435	495	4,458	4,095	6,848	36,443	*13,455*	*5,400*
2nd quarter	3,630	1,136	6,454	9,997	511	4,610	4,234	6,954	37,526	*13,200*	*5,456*
3rd quarter	3,721	1,301	6,606	9,836	511	4,895	4,233	6,530	37,633	*14,056*	*5,955*
4th quarter	3,979	1,349	7,251	10,515	596	5,321	4,580	7,499	41,090	*15,089*	*6,652*
1973 1st quarter	4,668	1,569	7,941	11,949	615	5,373	5,379	8,127	45,624	*16,017*	*7,428*
2nd quarter	5,202	1,776	9,000	13,002	681	6,777	5,724	9,438	51,597	*16,581*	*9,063*
3rd quarter	5,868	1,992	10,215	14,436	741	7,713	6,678	10,224	57,867	*17,619*	*10,170*
4th quarter	6,024	2,088	10,431	15,078	738	7,995	6,633	10,935	59,925	*18,909*	*11,670*
1974 1st quarter	6,456	2,361	11,952	15,378	831	9,336	7,200	12,822	65,616	*21,606*	*14,238*
2nd quarter	7,707	2,415	13,290	17,469	1,014	10,308	8,571	14,049	75,087	*24,858*	*16,155*
3rd quarter	7,548	2,331	14,088	17,856	1,041	11,223	8,859	13,933	77,154	*27,213*	*15,717*
4th quarter	7,179	2,286	13,650	18,234	915	10,209	8,658	13,943	75,132	*21,408*	*15,864*
1975 1st quarter			13,824		991	1,336		13,922		*26,261*	*14,817*
1974 January	2,181	784	3,755	5,074	233	2,439	2,252	3,552	20,270	*6,456*	*3,987*
February	2,148	776	3,968	4,814	272	3,337	2,348	4,123	21,786	*7,314*	*5,135*
March	2,188	803	4,208	5,291	334	3,575	2,658	4,543	23,600	*7,746*	*4,914*
April	2,389	818	4,394	5,666	327	3,756	2,844	4,541	24,735	*8,088*	*5,431*
May	2,726	762	4,453	5,961	329	2,385	2,339	4,804	23,759	*8,356*	*5,527*
June	2,576	807	4,453	5,775	343	3,518	2,946	4,704	25,122	*8,505*	*5,379*
July	2,675	795	4,786	5,926	357	4,237	3,194	4,751	26,721	*8,967*	*5,541*
August	2,404	810	4,730	6,197	358	3,493	2,732	4,618	25,343	*9,528*	*5,181*
September	2,468	727	4,572	5,734	330	3,494	2,932	4,564	24,969	*8,951*	*4,994*
October	2,349	759	4,514	6,010	308	3,564	2,861	4,760	25,083	*8,732*	*5,220*
November	2,362	788	4,477	6,193	291	3,191	2,872	4,691	24,835	*9,311*	*5,357*
December	2,468	738	4,660	6,100	316	3,454	2,923	4,493	25,214	*9,365*	*5,304*
1975 January	2,440	850	4,742	6,110	340	2,998		4,883		*9,831*	*5,153*
February	2,476	850	4,669	6,031	349	2,997		4,677		*7,797*	*4,798*
March			4,412		302			4,362		*7,827*	*4,865*
April					343			4,312		*7,336*	
% Change in dollar terms latest three months											
On previous three months	+2.86	+7.2	+1.3	+4.2	+5.0	+8.6	−2.3	−5.1	−2.5	*−19.5*	*−6.7*
On a year earlier	+19.5	+11.7	+15.9	+30.3	+6.5	+3.4	+33.4	+1.1	+26.2	*−0.8*	*+5.6*
% change in national currencies latest three months											
On previous three months	−1.7	+0.3	−6.2	+0.3	+3.3	−12.1	−6.8	−6.6	−1.0	*−19.5*	*−9.2*
On a year earlier	+5.5	−1.8	−0.8	+16.1	−6.6	+1.0	+15.8	−1.2	+28.5	*−0.8*	*+5.8*

[1]For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2]General trade. [3]*fob.* [4]Weighted average of percentage changes in national currencies
* All values are expressed in US dollars with the use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.
Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

TABLE 5 Balance of Payments on Current Account

US$ million (unadjusted)

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	EEC	*United States*	*Japan* *
1968	28	−216	−1,059	2,964	−60	2,688	65	−682	3,432	*725*	*1,048*
1969	74	−410	−1,798	1,931	−197	2,406	31	1,068	2,723	*540*	*2,119*
1970	724	−544	+297	979	−194	902	−518	1,661	2,470	*414*	*1,970*
1971	848	−422	525	892	207	2,034	−234	2,588	5,143	*−2,793*	*5,797*
1972	1,113	−66	284	1,041	−139	2,266	1,050	221	4,314	*−8,350*	*6,624*
1973	1,096	−472	−694	4,574	−216	−2,546	1,750	−3,569	865	*453*	*−133*
1974	813			9,358				−8,948		*−4,027*	*−4,549*
1972 1st quarter	279	−39	−325	135		811	17	−73		*−1,852*	*959*
2nd quarter	215	54	445	78		903	251	476		*−2,471*	*1,212*
3rd quarter	235	−36	−3	−306		782	393	−355		*−3,330*	*2,085*
4th quarter	384	−46	167	1,135		−230	389	173		*−697*	*2,369*
1973 1st quarter	353	−151	−223	596		−934	396	−890		*−261*	*497*
2nd quarter	226	−179	281	1,776		−838	574	−471		*−869*	*−416*
3rd quarter	200	69	−546	852		−331	−41	−603		*−1,074*	*101*
4th quarter	318	−211	205	1,951		−443	822	−1,165		*2,656*	*−315*
1974 1st quarter	349	−519	−498	2,749		−2,630	170	−2,479		*1,005*	*−3,274*
2nd quarter	−129	−311	−3,524	2,235		−2,478	555	−2,317		*−1,993*	*−2,377*
3rd quarter	292	−141		873		−1,225	368	−2,022		*−4,237*	*−90*
4th quarter	302			3,501				−2,132		*1,198*	*1,192*
1975 1st quarter								−1,392(e)			

Source: UK: Central Statistical Office. All others: IMF International Financial Statistics

TABLE 6 Export Unit Values of Manufactures

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxembourg		France		German F.R.		Italy		Netherlands		United Kingdom		*United States*	*Japan*	
	US$	Bfrs.	US$	frs.	US$	D.M.	US$	lire	US$	Gdrs.	US$	£	US$	US$	Yen
1968	92	92	96	85	88	96	90	90	95	95	90	90	*91*	*90*	*90*
1969	85	85	97	90	92	98	93	93	97	97	93	93	*95*	*94*	*94*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*	*100*
1971	98	96	105	105	107	102	106	105	104	101	107	105	*102*	*104*	*101*
1972	112	99	116	107	117	103	114	106	117	105	116	111	*105*	*116*	*99*
1973	137	107	140	113	144	104	127	118	139	108	127	124	*113*	*141*	*107*
1972 1st quarter	110	97	114	105	117	103	112	105	117	105	119	110	*104*	*112*	*96*
2nd quarter	112	99	114	105	116	102	113	105	116	104	120	111	*105*	*115*	*98*
3rd quarter	112	98	115	106	118	104	114	106	117	105	116	118	*104*	*117*	*100*
4th quarter	114	101	117	108	117	103	114	106	117	105	113	115	*107*	*119*	*102*
1973 1st quarter	122	102	126	110	124	103	119	110	124	105	119	118	*107*	*125*	*100*
2nd quarter	134	105	141	112	138	103	121	115	135	107	129	121	*111*	*136*	*100*
3rd quarter	148	108	153	115	159	104	131	120	148	124	131	127	*114*	*147*	*108*
4th quarter	147	113	152	121	153	107	133	125	152	112	132	133	*120*	*154*	*118*
1974 1st quarter	150	124	141	125	151	112	133	137	163	128	134	141	*127*	*165*	*134*
2nd quarter	173	132	158	139	172	117	148	151	179	131	153	153	*132*	*183*	*142*
3rd quarter					173	123					159	162	*138*		
4th quarter											165	170	*148*		
% change latest 3 months:															
On previous 3 months	+15.3	+6.5	+12.1	+11.2	−0.6	+5.1	+11.3	+10.2	+9.8	+2.3	+3.8	+4.9	*+7.3*	*+10.9*	*+6.0*
On a year earlier	+29.1	+25.7	+12.1	+24.1	+8.8	+18.3	+22.3	+31.3	+32.6	+22.4	+25.0	+27.8	*+23.3*	*+34.6*	*+42.0*

(e) estimated. Source: Dollar value: 'United Nations Monthly Bulletin'. National currency: Dollar values converted at OECD exchange rates as quoted in 'Series A'

TABLE 7 Consumer prices All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]	Luxembourg[1]	Denmark	France[1]	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	*United States*	*Japan*[1]
1968	92	93	91	89	93	86	93	89	90	*90*	*88*
1969	96	96	94	95	96	92	95	96	94	*94*	*93*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	104	105	106	105	105	109	105	108	109	*104*	*106*
1972	110	110	113	112	111	118	111	116	117	*108*	*111*
1973	118	117	123	120	119	132	123	125	128	*114*	*124*
1974	113	128	142	136	127	154	146	137	148	*128*	*154*
1972 1st quarter	108	108	110	109	109	115	108	113	114	*106*	*108*
2nd quarter	109	109	112	110	110	117	109	115	116	*107*	*111*
3rd quarter	111	111	114	113	112	120	111	116	118	*108*	*111*
4th quarter	113	113	116	115	114	122	114	119	121	*109*	*113*
1973 1st quarter	115	114	118	116	116	126	118	121	123	*111*	*116*
2nd quarter	117	117	122	118	119	130	121	125	127	*113*	*122*
3rd quarter	118	117	125	121	119	133	124	126	129	*116*	*126*
4th quarter	121	119	129	124	122	137	128	129	133	*118*	*132*
1974 1st quarter	125	123	134	129	125	144	135	132	139	*122*	*145*
2nd quarter	130	127	139	135	127	151	141	136	147	*125*	*151*
3rd quarter	136	129	145	139	128	157	150	138	151	*129*	*157*
4th quarter	140	133	150	143	130	165	159	143	158	*133*	*164*
1975 1st quarter	144	136	152	147	132	178	165	145	167	135	166
1974 January	123	121	134	127	124		132	130	137	*120*	*141*
February	125	124	134	129	125	144	134	131	139	*122*	*146*
March	126	124	135	131	125		138	134	140	*123*	*147*
April	128	126	137	133	126		140	135	145	*124*	*151*
May	130	127	139	134	127	151	142	136	147	*125*	*151*
June	132	128	142	136	127		144	137	149	*126*	*152*
July	134	129	143	138	128		146	137	150	*127*	*155*
August	136	129	144	139	128	157	150	138	150	*129*	*157*
September	137	130	147	140	128		154	140	152	*130*	*159*
October	139	131	148	142	129		157	142	155	*132*	*163*
November	140	133	151	143	130	165	159	143	158	*133*	*164*
December	141	134	152	144	130		161	144	160	*134*	*165*
1975 January	143	135	152	146	131		163	144	164	*134*	*166*
February	144	137	152	147	132	178	166	145	167	*135*	*166*
March	145	138	153	148	133		166	147	170	*136*	*168*
April									177		*170*(e)
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	+2.9	+3.0	+1.3	+2.8	+1.8	+7.9	+3.8	+1.6	+6.6	*+1.5*	*+1.8*
On a year earlier	+15.2	+10.6	+13.4	+14.0	+5.6	+23.6	+22.2	+9.8	+21.2	*+10.7*	*+12.5*

[1] Excluding rent. [2] Change of basis during period. (e) estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 8 Value of retail sales Current prices, seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]/ Luxem-bourg	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.[3]	Ireland[4]	Italy[4]	Nether-lands	Great Britain[5]	*United States*	*Japan*
1968	83	82	88	82	83	84	80	89	*92*	*80*
1969	90	90	97	90	91	90	89	93	*95*	*89*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	108	108	104	111	111	111	108	109	*109*	*110*
1972	120	119	110	120	125	125	121	123	*119*	*118*
1973	138	134	117	131	148	152	131	139	*134*	*145*
1974		147	133	138	165			161	*143*	
1972 1st quarter	115	113	107	118	119	109	116	116	*114*	*111*
2nd quarter	117	118	108	120	122	115	120	119	*117*	*114*
3rd quarter	122	121	111	124	126	118	122	125	*120*	*120*
4th quarter	126	123	110	125	132	158	124	130	*125*	*124*
1973 1st quarter	133	128	112	132	140	123	128	135	*132*	*135*
2nd quarter	134	130	116	130	147	141	130	133	*132*	*139*
3rd quarter	135	137	114	131	149	140	132	140	*136*	*147*
4th quarter	145	141	123	131	154	204	137	147	*137*	*156*
1974 1st quarter	150	144	128	136	158	160	140	150	*138*	*157*
2nd quarter	154	148	131	136	165	166	144	154	*142*	*160*
3rd quarter	159	148	137	140	169	181	151	165	*148*	*171*
4th quarter		151	137	142	175			174	*142*	
1973 November	144	141	120	130	155	177	135	147	*137*	*159*
December	148	143	124	130	151	253	138	149	*136*	*155*
1974 January	150	144	130	141	154	153	138	147	*137*	*160*
February	150	146	128	132	161	153	142	150	*138*	*156*
March	149	141	125	134	158	175	140	151	*140*	*154*
April	153	148	126	138	169	183	141	152	*142*	*154*
May	156	150	137	140	163	179	145	152	*143*	*160*
June	153	146	129	130	163	173	144	157	*142*	*165*
July	158	149	136	142	165	184	150	160	*148*	*167*
August	159	149	130	140	172	162	149	165	*150*	*167*
September	160	147	143	140	171	196	152	168	*148*	*177*
October	168	150	148	146	175	225	149	171	*146*	*170*
November	162	154	131	143	177	196	161	175	*142*	*174*
December		150	133	139	173			174	*137*	*174*
1975 January		158	143					181	*147*	*182*
February									*147*	
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	+4.3	+3.6	−3.3	+1.4	+3.4	+18.9	+4.3	+5.2	*−3.4*	*+3.1*
On a year earlier	+14.8	+8.2	+8.8	+8.6	+14.9	+18.4	+14.4	+19.6	*+14.9*	*+11.8*

[1] Department stores. [2] Department and chainstores. [3] Excluding West Berlin. [4] Average weekly sales. [5] Excluding motor vehicles.
[6] Revised series, including chainstores.
Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 9 Earnings/wages per head in manufacturing

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[1, 2, 6]	France[3]	German F.R.[6] †	Ireland[3]	Italy[7]	Nether-lands[3]	United Kingdom†	*United States*[4]	*Japan*[5] †
1968	84	81	82	79	76	78	82	81	*90*	*73*
1969	92	90	91	87	86	83	90	89	*95*	*85*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	111	115	110	116	116	113	112	111	*106*	*114*
1972	126	129	120	121	133	124	126	126	*113*	*132*
1973	147	153	135	136	159	154	142	143	*121*	*163*
1974	178	188	159			189	168	166	*131*	*206*
1971 1st quarter	107	108	104	108	110	109	107	108	*104*	*108*
2ndquarter	110	114	107	109	114	111	110	111	*106*	*111*
3rd quarter	112	117	110	113	118	114	114	112	*106*	*116*
4th quarter	115	121	113	112	122	116	116	115	*108*	*117*
1972 1st quarter	122	123	115	116	127	119	122	121	*111*	*123*
2nd quarter	124	128	118	120	131	121	124	124	*112*	*129*
3rd quarter	127	130	121	122	135	126	128	127	*113*	*131*
4th quarter	132	134	125	126	140	130	129	131	*116*	*138*
1973 1st quarter	140	137	129	130	145	137	137	134	*118*	*146*
2nd quarter	144	151	133	135	157	151	140	139	*120*	*155*
3rd quarter	149	160	138	137	164	161	146	144	*122*	*162*
4th quarter	154	168	143	141	168	168	148	150	*124*	*175*
1974 1st quarter	162	174	147	142	172	176	158	147	*126*	*173*
2nd quarter	173	186	155	151	188	184	166	159	*129*	*201*
3rd quarter	184	191	164	156	196	194	174	172	*133*	*215*
4th quarter	193	202	168			202	175	185	*137*	*217*
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	+4.9	+5.8	+2.4	+3.3	+4.3	+4 .1	+0.6	+7.6	*+3.0*	*+0.9*
On a year earlier	+25.3	+20.2	+17.5	+13.9	+19.5	+20.2	+18.2	+23.3	*+10.5*	*+24.0*

† Seasonally adjusted.
[1] Including mining. [2] Earnings. [3] Hourly earnings industry: males. [4] Gross hourly earnings per productive worker. [5] Monthly earnings in manufacturing: regular workers.
[6] Wages and salaries per employed person in industry, excluding construction, public gas and electricity undertakings. [7] Hourly-rates times average daily hours worked.
[8] Revised series.
Source: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except German Federal Republic ('Monatsberichte der Deutschen Bundesbank', Reihe 4), Italy ('I.L.O. Yearbook' and 'M.E.I.') and United Kingdom ('Department of Employment Gazette').

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure: Total	Fixed capital expenditure: of which: Manufacturing industry	Fixed capital expenditure: of which: Distributive and service industries	Changes in stocks: Total	Changes in stocks: of which: Manufacturing industry	Changes in stocks: of which: Wholesalers	Changes in stocks: of which: Retailers	Balance of payments: Current balance	Balance of payments: Visible balance	Balance of payments: Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,387	9 223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	438	324	68	−23	698	−11	709
1971	101	103	100	94	103	111	−126	52	−4	1,052	273	778
1972	104	109	106	85	116	−54	−203	48	3	82	−683	765
1973	110	114	110	90	121	696	374	32	242	−1,117	−2,301	1,184
1974	109	114	108	100	111	265	435	34	−124	−3,828	−5,259	1,431
1972 2nd qtr.	104	108	106	84	115	−31	−106	1	38	123	−67	190
3rd qtr.	104	110	106	82	116	−7	−42	6	−13	−109	−284	175
4th qtr.	107	111	108	83	123	18	7	24	−6	−17	−209	192
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	112	89	127	277	146	11	32	−184	−354	170
2nd qtr.	109	112	107	86	113	188	61	−9	163	−210	−401	191
3rd qtr.	110	114	111	91	120	100	68	6	22	−230	−569	339
4th qtr.	110	114	111	94	125	131	99	24	25	−493	−977	484
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	112	99	111	−235	−100	8	−73	−971	−1,279	308
2nd qtr.	110	112	105	99	107	209	138	42	11	−985	−1,316	331
3rd qtr.	112	114	106	99	115	257	299	−27	−28	−797	−1,210	413
4th qtr.	110	116	107	102	112	34	+99	10	−34	−1,075	−1,454	379
1975 1st qtr.										−323	−683	360
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+3.0	+2.2	−1.8	+1.5	+4.1							
on a year earlier	+1.3	+0.9	−4.1	+8.6	−7.3							

	Index of industrial production: Total all industries	Index of industrial production: Total manufacturing industries	Personal expenditure: Retail sales	Personal expenditure: Cars: new registrations	Prices and costs: Index of retail prices: Index‡	Prices and costs: Index of retail prices: % increase on a year earlier	Prices and costs: Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Prices and costs: Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Prices and costs: Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Labour: Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Labour: Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Labour: Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Trade§: Exports	Trade§: Imports
			monthly averages										totals	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	8,801	8,528
1972	102.4	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	9,147	9,830
1973	109.9	110.5	110.7	137.3	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2•	115.5	581	2.6	304	11,512	13,813
1974	106.4	107.9	109.9	102.7	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.5	572+	2.5+	298+	15,589	20,848
1973 3rd qtr.	110.7	111.5	110.6	143	180.2†	9.2	150.9	124.2	118.5	555	2.4	334	2,991	3,560
4th qtr.	109.5	110.5	112.0	119	186.8†	10.3	167.6	129.1	121.0	494	2.2	361	3,048	4,025
1974 1st qtr.	103.5	105.7	109.8	103	101.4	12.9	212.5	138.3	125.0	546	2.4	286	3,500	4,779
2nd qtr.	107.8	109.3	107.3	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.2	552	2.4	311	3,900	5,216
3rd qtr.	108.6	110.2	111.0	109	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	143.9	592	2.7	306	4,161	5,371
4th qtr.	105.4	106.2	111.6	96	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,029	5,482
1975 1st qtr.	105.0	106.4	111.6	106	122.0	20.3	220.9 p	176.0 p	162.9	701	3.1	..	4,559	5,242
1974 Apr.	107.3	109.0	107.9	97	106.1	15.2	215.4	146.4	127.9	546	2.4	298	1,272	1,675
May	107.5	108.7	105.6	105	107.6	15.9	214.0	149.0	132.0	548	2.4	315	1,304	1,783
June	108.6	110.3	108.2	111	108.7	16.5	211.7	151.2	136.8	562	2.5	319	1,324	1,758
July	109.2	110.7	109.2	106	109.7	17.1	212.3	153.5	139.8	576	2.5	317	1,337	1,769
Aug.	109.1	111.2	111.4	102	109.8	16.9	213.7	156.1	145.5	597	2.6	301	1,378	1,787
Sept.	107.6	108.8	112.2	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.3	603	2.7	301	1,446	1,816
Oct.	107.0	107.5	111.4	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2	148.7	607	2.7	294	1,347	1,841
Nov.	106.6	107.7	112.8	98	115.2	18.3	223.8	164.8	153.9	613	2.7	273	1,296	1,896
Dec.	102.8	103.5	110.8	87	116.9	19.1	222.5	167.6	157.9	..	..	..	1,386	1,745
1975 Jan.	104.9	106.3	113.0	109	119.9	19.9	222.1	173.0	159.7	678 e	3.0	..	1,562	1,837
Feb.	105.5	107.3	112.3	113	121.9	19.9	218.8	175.9	161.7	705	3.1	192	1,456	1,746
Mar.	104.6	105.1	109.4	97	124.3	21.2	221.8 p	179.0 p	168.3	722	3.2	186	1,540	1,658
Apr.			117½	89 p	129.1	21.7	223.0 p	182.0 p	168.6	760	3.3	173	1,366 p	1,655 p
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−0.4	+0.1	+0.8	+1.7	+6.6		−0.7	+6.2	+5.7	..		..	+3	−7½
on a year earlier	+1.5	+0.7	+3.4	−4.2	+20.9		+3.1	+25.7	+31.5	+32.9		−35.2	+17½	+1

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. • After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100.
+ Average of 11 months. e Figure is estimate.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	e fifty-three week period

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Turnover of the motor trades in the first quarter of 1975

Total turnover of the motor trades in the first quarter of 1975 was 30 per cent more than in the first quarter of 1974, which was markedly affected by the three day working and the shortage of petrol.

New vehicle sales in the first quarter of 1975 were 30 per cent higher than in the first quarter of 1974, and used vehicle sales were 32 per cent more than a year earlier. On the same comparison other sales and receipts (which include sales of petrol, oil, tyres, spares and accessories, and receipts from servicing and repairs) rose by 30 per cent

Notes

The statistics are of turnover at current prices. Movements therefore include the effect of price changes, including changes in purchase tax before the second quarter of 1973, the introduction of VAT and car tax from the second quarter of 1973, the introduction of VAT on petrol from the second quarter of 1974, and subsequent changes in the rate of VAT. The turnover includes transactions between dealers in addition to final sales. Vehicles include commercial vehicles as well as private cars and motor cycles.

The figures are *not* seasonally adjusted.

The returns made by a voluntary panel are used to project the figures of turnover, obtained in a comprehensive inquiry to all motor traders, in a 'base year'. It is expected that more detailed quarterly statistics will be compiled when results from the comprehensive inquiry for 1972, which is being processed by the Business Statistics Office, become available.

Index numbers of turnover per quarter at current prices (including purchase tax or VAT and car tax)

Percentage change compared with a year earlier in brackets — 1967 = 100

	Total turnover	New vehicle sales	Used vehicle sales	Other sales
Turnover in 1967 (£ million)	(£4,234m)	(£1,510m)	(£766m)	(£1,958m)
1967	100	100	100	100
1968	109 (+ 9)	109 (+ 9)	105 (+ 5)	110 (+10)
1969	112 (+ 2)	105 (– 4)	102 (– 3)	120 (+ 9)
1970	126 (+13)	122 (+16)	117 (+14)	132 (+10)
1971	149 (+19)	158 (+29)	142 (+22)	146 (+11)
1972	173 (+16)	196 (+24)	159 (+12)	161 (+10)
1973	192 (+11)	216 (+10)	164 (+ 3)	184 (+14)
1974	207 (+ 8)	208 (– 4)	158 (– 4)	225 (+22)
1968 1st qtr.	120 (+23)	139 (+37)	121 (+28)	104 (+10)
2nd qtr.	109 (+ 3)	102 (– 7)	108 (– 1)	114 (+13)
3rd qtr.	106 (+ 5)	96 (+ 2)	103 (– 3)	114 (+10)
4th qtr.	103 (+ 6)	100 (+ 6)	88 (– 2)	110 (+10)
1969 1st qtr.	111 (– 7)	113 (–19)	104 (–13)	112 (+ 8)
2nd qtr.	121 (+11)	119 (+17)	115 (+ 6)	124 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	112 (+ 6)	101 (+ 6)	101 (– 3)	124 (+ 9)
4th qtr.	102 (– 1)	88 (–12)	89 (+ 1)	119 (+ 8)
1970 1st qtr.	124 (+11)	128 (+14)	115 (+11)	123 (+10)
2nd qtr.	133 (+10)	133 (+11)	126 (+ 9)	135 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	126 (+12)	117 (+16)	116 (+16)	136 (+ 9)
4th qtr.	121 (+18)	111 (+26)	109 (+22)	134 (+13)
1971 1st qtr.	142 (+15)	155 (+21)	134 (+16)	136 (+10)
2nd qtr.	152 (+15)	160 (+21)	148 (+18)	147 (+ 9)
3rd qtr.	157 (+25)	164 (+40)	153 (+31)	153 (+13)
4th qtr.	146 (+21)	152 (+36)	133 (+22)	147 (+10)
1972 1st qtr.	166 (+17)	190 (+23)	158 (+18)	151 (+11)
2nd qtr.	182 (+20)	213 (+33)	169 (+14)	162 (+10)
3rd qtr.	176 (+12)	194 (+18)	161 (+ 5)	168 (+10)
4th qtr.	170 (+16)	187 (+23)	149 (+12)	165 (+12)
1973 1st qtr.	204 (+23)	251 (+32)	187 (+19)	175 (+16)
2nd qtr.	193 (+ 6)	220 (+ 3)	168 (– 1)	182 (+12)
3rd qtr.	195 (+11)	215 (+11)	170 (+ 6)	189 (+12)
4th qtr.	175 (+ 3)	177 (– 6)	132 (–11)	190 (+16)
1974 1st qtr.	186 (– 9)	203 (–19)	135 (–28)	194 (+11)
2nd qtr.	215 (+11)	229 (+ 4)	172 (+ 2)	221 (+22)
3rd qtr.	216 (+11)	209 (– 3)	171 (–)	240 (+27)
4th qtr.	209 (+20)	191 (+ 8)	155 (+17)	244 (+29)
1975 1st qtr.	243 (+30)	264 (+30)	178 (+32)	252 (+30)

Exhibitors' 1974 quota returns

Returns of films exhibited in 1974 have now been examined by the Department of Trade. 172 quota films (78 British and 94 Community) of a playing time of more than 72 minutes were registered during the year compared with 160 (80 British and 80 Community) quota films registered in 1973, the first year in which Community films were eligible to be counted for quota purposes. In addition, in 1974 nine entries in the film register were amended in respect of films having a playing time of more than 72 minutes, and registered as foreign prior to that year, to show that the films concerned were Community films. This compares with 44 such amendments in 1973.

The main points of the analysis are:

1 The average proportion of quota films exhibited at all cinemas for the first features and for the supporting programme was above the prescribed level. The proportion of quota films exhibited as first features, 41.3 per cent, compared with the previous year's achievement of 42.1 per cent. The figure for the supporting programme, 42.3 per cent, compared with 37.2 per cent in 1973.

2 Of the 1,354 cinemas covered, 96 per cent achieved or exceeded their first feature quotas, the same percentage as in 1973, and 97 per cent achieved or exceeded their supporting programme quotas, against 92 per cent the previous year. A large proportion of the quota failures involved only a small margin of failure.

The Films Acts 1960-1970, which require all exhibitors to make returns, provide that cinemas must show quota films to at least the extent of the percentages prescribed. For 1974, the standard quotas were 30 per cent for films shown as first features and 25 per cent for films (second features and short films) in the 'supporting programme'.

Of the 1,354 cinemas whose returns were analysed, 83 cinemas which satisfied the conditions of the Acts regarding quota relief had reduced quotas prescribed ranging from 12.5 per cent to 28 per cent, instead of the standard first feature quota of 30 per cent; and 62 of these, playing a majority of double feature programmes, had reduced quotas ranging from 12 per cent to 23 per cent for supporting programme films. After allowing for these quota reliefs, the average prescribed quotas for the 1,354 cinemas were 29.3 per cent for first features and 24.6 per cent for supporting programme.

Index of retail prices for April

The index of retail prices for all items for 15 April 1975 was 129.1 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 3.9 per cent on March (124.3) and of 21.7 per cent on April 1974 (106.1).

The rise in the index in April was due mainly to higher local rates and water charges, higher rents, higher prices for electricity, domestic coal and coke, beef, fresh vegetables and school meals, higher fares in the London area, higher car insurance premiums and higher charges for television licences. Part of the rise in the average price paid for beef resulted from the ending of the beef token scheme.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1

	All items			All items except seasonal food		
	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 12 months	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 6 months
1974						
November	115.2	+1.8	+18.3	115.6	+1.7	+7.3
December	116.9	+1.5	+19.1	117.4	+1.6	+8.1
1975						
January	119.9	+2.6	+19.9	120.5	+2.6	+9.5
February	121.9	+1.7	+19.9	122.5	+1.7	+11.1
March	124.3	+2.0	+21.2	124.8	+1.9	+11.9
April	129.1	+3.9	+21.7	129.4	+3.7	+13.8

TABLE 2

	Indices (15 Jan. 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	18 Mar. 1975	15 Apr. 1975	
All items	124.3	129.1	+ 3.9
All items excluding food	123.8	128.7	+ 4.0
Food	126.0	130.7	+ 3.7
Seasonal food	114.9	124.8	+ 8.6
Other food	128.7	132.2	+ 2.7
Alcoholic drink	120.7	122.3	+ 1.3
Tobacco	125.5	125.7	+ 0.2
Housing	111.8	125.8	+12.5
Fuel and light	130.0	136.7	+ 5.2
Durable household goods	121.3	124.0	+ 2.2
Clothing and footwear	122.5	123.0	+ 0.4
Transport and vehicles	134.5	138.1	+ 2.7
Miscellaneous goods	130.2	134.5	+ 3.3
Services	121.0	126.3	+ 4.4
Meals out	122.1	128.0	+ 4.8

Retail sales: provisional estimates for April

Volume

The *provisional* estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in April is 117½ (1971 = 100), indicating a rise of 7-8 per cent from the relatively depressed March level.

This estimate is subject to greater uncertainty than usual because of wide variations in the experience of contributors in the different parts of the retail trade.

The announcement in the Budget on 15 April of the higher rate of VAT taking effect from 1 May and also of the increases in Excise Duties will have influenced the April figure.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the *provisional* estimate of the value of total retail sales in April shows a rise of 31 per cent compared with April 1974. In the first four months of 1975 the value of sales was 24 per cent above the corresponding period of 1974.

Retail sales: Volume Seasonally adjusted index (1971 = 100)		Retail sales: Value Not seasonally adjusted – percentage change compared with a year earlier	
1974 1st quarter	109.8	1974 1st quarter	+11
2nd quarter	107.3	2nd quarter	+15
3rd quarter	111.0	3rd quarter	+18
4th quarter	111.6	4th quarter	+18
1975 1st quarter	111.5	1975 1st quarter	+22
1974 January	109.1	1974 January	+12
February	110.1	February	+11
March	110.0	March	+ 9
April	107.9	April	+16
1975 January	113.0	1975 January	+22
February	112.3	February	+22
March	109.4	March	+21
April	117½ (prov.)	April	+31 (prov.)

Notes

The volume index is given to the nearest ½ per cent. The percentage increase in value compared with a year earlier is given to the nearest whole number.

A detailed note on the method of computation of the provisional estimates was published in *Trade and Industry* on 21 February 1974.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The provisional figures are made available by press notice in advance of this article. The final figures for April will be published in a press notice on Monday, 9 June 1975.

Retailers' stocks in March

Based on the non-seasonally adjusted data of Table 1, the level of stocks at book values in March was 16 per cent higher than a year earlier, but at constant prices it was 6 per cent lower.

The value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices and seasonally adjusted (Table 2) shows a further small fall in the volume of stocks held; this coincided with a comparatively depressed level of retail sales. The fall continues the decline in the level of stocks evident during the second half of 1974. Over this whole period the underlying movement in the volume of retail sales, on a seasonally adjusted basis, was broadly flat.

Note: The statistics now being given in Table 2 were introduced in an article in the issue of 28 March 1975. The article also gave figures back to 1966 for both Table 1 and Table 2.

TABLE 1 Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1971 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier*

(At cost at end of month)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
At book values:												
1971	89	91	94	95	95	97	95	95	97	106	110	100
1972	96	99	101	102	103	105	102	102	105	114	120	107
1973	103	106	110	108	110	113	112	113	117	127	135	124
1974	120	121	126	130	134	135	134	133	138	150	159	143
1975	138	140	147									
1972	*8*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*8*	*7*
1973	*8*	*8*	*9*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	—	*21*	*22*	*19*	*20*	*18*	*18*	*18*	*18*	*16*
1975	*15*	*16*	*16*									
At constant (1970) prices:												
1971	95	97	99	99	98	99	96	96	99	107	111	100
1972	95	97	100	100	100	102	99	99	100	107	113	100
1973	97	99	102	109	110	112	110	109	113	120	126	114
1974	109	107	111	111	112	111	109	107	109	116	120	107
1975	101	101	104									
1972	—	—	*1*	*1*	*2*	*3*	*2*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*2*	—
1973	*2*	*2*	*3*	*9*	*10*	*10*	*12*	*11*	*12*	*12*	*12*	*14*
1974	*12*	*9*	*8*	*2*	*2*	*−1*	*−1*	*−2*	*−3*	*−4*	*−5*	*−7*
1975	*−7*	*−6*	*−6*									

1 The book value of retailers' stocks in the United Kingdom at end of December 1971 was £1,899 million.

2 With the introduction of VAT, the book values are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series in 1973 between March and April. For the year up to March, the usual comparisons with a year earlier for the book values series have not been given. As the basis of valuation is now comparable with that of a year earlier these percentages changes have been re-introduced. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are on a consistent basis throughout.

TABLE 2 Value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices

Seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1971	−13	−6	−13	3	−17	17	−6	4	10	21	−8	4
1972	−7	3	−12	12	4	22	−15	14	−12	10	9	−25
1973	20	8	4	107	21	35	9	−1	14	−2	13	14
1974	−10	−60	−3	8	19	−16	12	−32	−8	−8	−3	−23
1975	−30	−26	−9									

See footnote 2 to Table 1.

Export pictures

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story, with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your news and photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Hosiery and other knitted goods – index of production

In the three months ended March 1975 the volume of production of hosiery and other knitted goods, seasonally adjusted (including knitted fabrics), was provisionally estimated to have been 8 per cent less than in the three months ended December 1974 and 9 per cent less than in the three months ended March 1974.

The seasonally adjusted figures for 1974 are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1973 and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1974 have been incorporated. The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months, but not for other seasonal variations.

1970 = 100

1968	88
1969	98
1970	100
1971	99
1972	100
1973	103
1974 p	100

	Including warp knitting	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973 1st quarter	97	104
2nd quarter	101	103
3rd quarter	98	102
4th quarter	115	102
1974 1st quarter	91	97
2nd quarter	103	105
3rd quarter	97	101
4th quarter p	109	96
1975 1st quarter p	83	88
1973 April	97	104
May	101	105
June	105	101
July	90	102
August	91	102
September	113	102
October	124	104
November	124	104
December	96	99
1974 January	77	91
February	94	98
March	101	102
April	95	101
May	99	102
June	116	112
July	88	100
August	91	101
September	113	102
October p	121	101
November p	125	105
December p	80	83
1975 January p	73	86
February p	87	91
March p	88	89

p = provisional.

New companies incorporated in Northern Ireland during March

During the month of March 34 private companies with a total nominal capital of £1,589,050 were incorporated in Northern Ireland.

During the period January-March 119 companies with a total nominal capital of £3,664,750 were incorporated, as compared with 157 companies with a total nominal capital of £2,484,800 incorporated in the same period in 1974.

Steel consumption and stocks in the first quarter of 1975

Consumption

Seasonally adjusted consumption of finished steel in the first quarter of 1975 is provisionally estimated to be 4.28 million tonnes, slightly lower than the previous quarter, although slightly higher than in the third quarter of 1974.

Deliveries

The level of deliveries from UK producers to consumers and merchants in the quarter is estimated to be 3.58 million, the lowest since 1971, while imports at 0.85 million were the highest ever, apart from the abnormal first quarter 1974. As merchants are estimated to have increased their stocks in the quarter, deliveries to consumers are estimated to be 4.25 million tonnes.

Stocks

Whilst consumer stocks are estimated to have decreased very slightly, merchants are estimated to have increased their stocks by 0.18 million tonnes, an unparalleled level of quarterly stock build

TABLE 1 Consumption, deliveries and stocks of finished steel

Seasonally adjusted

	Consumption m. tonnes	Deliveries m. tonnes			Stocks m. tonnes			Number of weeks supply in stock		
		From UK production to consumers and merchants	Imports	Total to consumers (a)	Consumers	Merchants	Total	Consumers	Merchants	Total
1968	16.83	15.46	1.56	17.00	3.26	0.61	3.87	9.6	1.7	11.3
1969	17.78	17.14	1.18	18.28	3.77	0.63	4.40	10.8	1.9	12.7
1970	17.64	17.10	1.04	17.91	4.15	0.87	5.02	11.9	2.5	14.4
1971	16.72	14.50	1.41	16.07	3.47	0.71	4.18	11.5	2.3	13.8
1972	16.75	14.59	2.14	16.72	3.44	0.72	4.16	9.6	2.0	11.6
1973	18.45	16.80	2.51	19.45	4.44	0.58	5.02	13.2	1.8	15.0
1974	17.55	15.07	3.29	18.07	4.96	0.87	5.83	15.1	2.6	17.7
1972 1st quarter	3.93	3.42	0.48	3.90	3.49	0.67	4.16	11.0	2.4	13.4
2nd quarter	4.04	3.43	0.47	3.88	3.33	0.68	4.01	10.0	2.2	12.2
3rd quarter	4.28	3.78	0.53	4.32	3.32	0.73	4.05	9.6	2.1	11.7
4th quarter	4.50	3.96	0.66	4.62	3.44	0.72	4.16	9.6	2.0	11.6
1973 1st quarter	4.67	4.15	0.65	4.80	3.57	0.73	4.30	10.6	2.2	12.8
2nd quarter	4.37	4.13	0.44	4.61	3.82	0.68	4.50	10.8	1.9	12.7
3rd quarter	4.60	4.26	0.61	4.91	4.12	0.64	4.76	11.1	1.8	12.9
4th quarter	4.81	4.26	0.81	5.13	4.44	0.58	5.02	13.2	1.8	15.0
1974 1st quarter	4.36	3.98	0.97	4.92	5.00	0.62	5.62	14.2	1.8	16.0
2nd quarter	4.56	3.93	0.82	4.62	5.06	0.75	5.81	15.5	2.3	17.8
3rd quarter	4.25	3.56	0.70	4.19	5.00	0.81	5.81	14.8	2.4	17.2
4th quarter	4.38	3.60	0.80	4.34	4.96	0.87	5.83	15.1	2.6	17.7
1975 1st quarter (p)	4.28	3.58 (r)	0.85	4.25 (r)	4.93	1.05	5.98	15.0	3.2	18.2

(a) Total deliveries to consumers are deliveries from UK production to consumers and stockholding merchants plus imports minus stock build by stockholding merchants.
(p) Provisional
(r) Revisions to figures published in the press on 16 May 1975.

Note: Estimates of weeks supply are given by stocks held divided by the consumption level of the following quarter, with the exception of 1975 quarter one when the divisor used is consumption in that quarter.

TABLE 2 Stocks of finished steel held by consumers and merchants

Seasonally adjusted (m. tonnes)

	Sheets	Plate	Tinplate	Rods and bars for reinforcement	Other steel products	Total all products
CONSUMERS						
1970	0.53	0.85	0.14	0.19	2.44	4.15
1971	0.42	0.67	0.14	0.14	2.10	3.47
1972	0.42	0.70	0.14	0.15	2.03	3.44
1973	0.60	0.91	0.16	0.22	2.55	4.44
1974	0.61	1.07	0.17	0.23	2.88	4.96
1974 1st quarter	0.72	1.03	0.19	0.25	2.81	5.00
2nd quarter	0.66	1.08	0.17	0.25	2.91	5.07
3rd quarter	0.62	1.07	0.17	0.21	2.93	5.00
4th quarter	0.61	1.07	0.17	0.23	2.88	4.96
1975 1st quarter (p)	0.55	1.18	0.18	0.26	2.76	4.93
MERCHANTS						
1970	0.25	0.19	0.02	0.02	0.39	0.87
1971	0.21	0.09	0.02	0.01	0.38	0.71
1972	0.20	0.12	0.02	0.01	0.37	0.72
1973	0.15	0.11	0.02	0.01	0.29	0.58
1974	0.27	0.18	0.01	0.01	0.40	0.87
1974 1st quarter	0.18	0.12	0.02	0.01	0.29	0.62
2nd quarter	0.25	0.14	0.02	0.01	0.33	0.75
3rd quarter	0.27	0.16	0.01	0.01	0.36	0.81
4th quarter	0.27	0.18	0.01	0.01	0.40	0.87
1975 1st quarter (p)	0.28	0.27	0.01	0.01	0.48	1.05
TOTAL						
1970	0.78	1.04	0.16	0.21	2.83	5.02
1971	0.63	0.76	0.16	0.15	2.48	4.18
1972	0.62	0.82	0.16	0.16	2.40	4.16
1973	0.75	1.02	0.18	0.23	2.84	5.02
1974	0.88	1.25	0.18	0.24	3.28	5.83
1974 1st quarter	0.90	1.15	0.21	0.26	3.10	5.62
2nd quarter	0.91	1.22	0.19	0.26	3.24	5.82
3rd quarter	0.89	1.23	0.18	0.22	3.29	5.81
4th quarter	0.88	1.25	0.18	0.24	3.28	5.83
1975 1st quarter (p)	0.83	1.45	0.19	0.27	3.24	5.98

(p) Provisional

which has increased their stocks to a record level of 1.05 million tonnes. The merchants stock build is partially involuntary and reflects in part the delivery of import orders placed towards the end of 1974. Total stocks, which have increased by some 2 million tonnes since 1972 since when they have increased regularly, increased again in the first quarter of 1975 by 0.15 million to reach a new record level of 5.98 million, equivalent to just over 18 weeks supply, some six weeks more than at end 1972. Of the products identified in the survey plate shows the largest increase of 0.20 million tonnes while sheet decreased by 0.05 million tonnes.

Part of the demand for consumption is expected to be met by consumer and merchant stock draw in the remainder of 1975. Demand for deliveries from both UK production and imports is expected to fall accordingly.

Metal working machine tools

Monthly analysis of sales and orders for January and February 1975

This article presents in Table 1 provisional monthly statistics of manufacturers' sales and orders for metal working machine tools up to February of this year. The statistics will also be published in Business Monitor PM 332.

The monthly estimates up to and including September of last year have been adjusted to be consistent with the results of the more comprehensive quarterly inquiry published in Business Monitor PQ 332, now available up to the third quarter of 1974. The latest provisional estimates for the months of October 1974 to February 1975 will similarly be revised as more up-to-date quarterly statistics become available.

Summary

While activity in the machine tool industry remains relatively high, there has been some easing back in sales, new orders and orders-on-hand in recent months. This appears to reflect weaker trends in home and overseas investment demand for the products of this industry. Nevertheless, total sales in the three months December 1974 to February 1975 were 37 per cent higher than a year earlier at current values, partly in consequence of higher prices but also reflecting some growth in the volume of sales, especially to export markets.

The inflow of new home and export orders has continued to decrease from the high levels of the second quarter of 1974 but order books, although showing some signs of decreasing in recent months, are still at historically high levels, only partly owing to the rising level of prices. Total orders-on-hand were valued at £260 million at the end of February 1975 which was 16 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Recent trends for machine tools

Monthly statistics now available show that the overall level of sales in the three months up to February of 1975 had fallen by 8 per cent in value terms on the preceding three months. The fall,

TABLE 1 Metal-working machine tools: orders and sales

£ million

	Sales			Orders outstanding*			New orders		
	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export
1966	164.0	118.9	45.1	110.7	78.0	32.7	160.1	114.1	46.0
1967	171.2	123.9	47.3	100.9	54.1	46.6	161.4	100.0	61.4
1968	168.8	113.5	55.1	116.1	61.7	54.4	183.8	121.0	62.7
1969	189.1	119.1	70.0	164.2	93.3	70.9	237.2	150.7	86.5
1970	218.6	137.3	81.8	159.2	86.8	72.7	213.9	130.8	83.1
1971	207.7	121.7	86.0	106.0	46.0	60.0	154.2	80.9	73.3
1972	184.7	111.6	73.1	113.3	55.7	57.6	192.0	121.3	70.7
1973	214.4	130.4	84.0	205.3	112.6	92.7	306.4	187.3	119.1
1974 p	246.8	143.6	103.2	268.0	130.4	137.6	309.5	161.4	148.1
1973 1st quarter	57.0	37.4	19.6	122.4	62.7	59.7	66.1	44.4	21.7
2nd quarter	49.5	29.1	20.4	143.7	76.4	67.3	70.8	42.8	28.0
3rd quarter	51.0	29.5	21.5	177.1	95.5	81.6	84.4	48.6	35.8
4th quarter	56.9	34.4	22.5	205.3	112.6	92.7	85.1	51.5	33.6
1974 1st quarter	55.8	34.1	21.7	229.3	120.5	108.8	79.8	42.0	37.8
2nd quarter	56.0	32.6	23.4	258.9	132.9	126.0	85.6	45.0	40.6
3rd quarter	62.0	36.9	25.1	273.0	134.7	138.3	76.1	38.7	37.4
4th quarter p	73.0	40.0	33.0	268.0	130.4	137.6	68.0	35.7	32.3
1973 October	18.3	10.6	7.7	184.4	101.0	83.4	25.6	16.1	9.5
November	22.1	13.0	9.1	193.5	107.5	86.0	31.2	19.5	11.7
December	16.5	10.8	5.7	205.3	112.6	92.7	28.3	15.9	12.4
1974 January	15.2	9.3	5.9	213.2	114.5	98.7	23.1	11.2	11.9
February	18.3	10.6	7.7	224.8	119.0	105.8	29.9	15.1	14.8
March	22.3	14.2	8.1	229.3	120.5	108.8	26.8	15.7	11.1
April	16.6	9.7	6.9	242.1	123.4	118.7	29.4	12.6	16.8
May	20.1	11.9	8.2	251.4	129.2	121.5	29.4	18.4	11.0
June	19.3	11.0	8.3	258.9	132.9	126.0	26.8	14.0	12.8
July	22.6	13.2	9.4	265.2	132.5	132.7	28.9	12.8	16.1
August	17.6	10.7	6.9	270.3	134.5	135.8	22.7	12.7	10.0
September	21.8	13.0	8.8	273.0	134.7	138.3	24.5	13.2	11.3
October p	26.7	14.4	12.3	272.9	135.1	137.8	26.6	14.8	11.8
November p	26.1	14.6	11.5	269.7	134.5	135.2	22.9	14.0	8.9
December p	20.2	11.0	9.2	268.0	130.4	137.6	18.5	6.9	11.6
1975 January p	23.0	14.0	9.0	264.3	126.3	138.0	19.3	9.9	9.4
February p	25.1	14.9	10.2	259.8	122.7	137.1	20.6	11.3	9.3
Three monthly totals									
December 1974 – February 1975	68.3	39.9	28.4	259.8	122.7	137.1	58.4	28.1	30.3
September 1974 – November 1974	74.6	42.0	32.6	269.7	134.5	135.2	74.0	42.0	32.0
December 1973 – February 1974	50.0	30.7	19.3	224.8	119.0	105.8	81.3	42.2	39.1
Percentage change latest three months on:									
1. Previous three months	−8	−5	−13	−4	−9	+1	−21	−33	−5
2. A year earlier	+37	+30	+47	+16	+3	+30	−28	−33	−23

r = revised.
p = provisional.
* The values for orders outstanding relate to the ends of the periods shown.
Due to rounding, constituent figures may not sum to their respective totals.

which was probably somewhat greater in volume terms, was mainly a result of a drop in export sales of 13 per cent compared with a decline of only 5 per cent in sales to the home market. In contrast, a comparison of total sales in the most recent three months with those in the period December 1973-February 1974 shows that sales had increased by 37 per cent as a result of substantial increases in export and home sales of 47 and 30 per cent respectively. These increases as compared with a year ago suggest that despite some decrease in recent months there has been at least a moderate growth in the total volume of sales and production.

The trend of new ordering has continued to decline as investment demand has tended to weaken in both the home and overseas markets. The latest three monthly figures for new orders fell by 21 per cent on the previous three months, most of this being accounted for by a sharp decline of 35 per cent in new orders secured from the home market, while the intake of export new orders decreased by 5 per cent. When compared with the same period of last year, export new orders have shown a fall of 23 per cent, which combined with a sharp decrease of 33 per cent in home new orders has resulted in a reduction of 28 per cent in the total intake over the past 12 months. This decline in the inflow by value of new orders received covers a somewhat greater fall in volume offset by the further growth in output prices over the past year.

Since the combined inflow of new orders received has continued below the value of total sales in the most recent three months, the overall level of order books up to February of this year decreased by 4 per cent compared with three months earlier, mainly reflecting a 9 per cent fall in outstanding orders for the home market. Compared with a year ago, however, the level of export order books in February was substantially higher (by 33 per cent), while home order books only increased marginally by value and clearly have been falling in volume since the second quarter of last year.

In value terms total orders-on-hand are probably sufficient to support a relatively high level of sales well into 1975.

International Passenger Survey 1974

Preliminary results of the International Passenger Survey show that there were an estimated 7.9 million overseas visitors to the United Kingdom in 1974, 3 per cent more than in 1973. United Kingdom residents made 10.5 million visits abroad in the year, a fall of 9 per cent from the previous year's level. Overseas visitors expenditure in the UK in 1974 rose by 22 per cent to £834 million, while expenditure abroad by UK residents was almost the same as in 1973 at £681 million. The UK's earnings from overseas visitors is therefore estimated to have exceeded expenditure abroad by UK residents by about £150 million, which is a record. Visits both to and from the UK in 1974 were on average slightly shorter than in the previous year; the number of nights spent in the UK by overseas visitors rose by 1 per cent and the number of nights spent abroad by UK residents fell by 12 per cent.

Overseas visitors to the UK

The overall increase of 3 per cent for the number of visitors to the United Kingdom in 1974 reflects different rates of increase, and some decreases, for visits from different countries, and for different purposes of visit. The number of business visitors rose by 13 per cent in 1974 over 1973, the number of holiday-visitors fell by 2 per cent and there were rises of 7 per cent and 4 per cent, respectively, for those visiting friends and relatives and those for other miscellaneous purposes. Of overseas visitors coming to the UK 47 per cent came on holiday in 1974, compared with 50 per cent in 1973, and 21 per cent came to business compared with 19 per cent in 1973.

The number of visitors from North America fell by 15 per cent in 1974 compared with 1973 and accounted for only 22 per cent of all visitors, down from 27 per cent in 1973. The largest fall in the number of visitors from North America was in those coming on holiday; there was a small rise in the number of business visits. The number of visitors from EEC countries rose by 7 per cent and accounted for 49 per cent of all visitors in 1974. A particularly large increase was recorded in the number of visitors from West Germany (a total of 1 million), which is now the second largest source of overseas visitors after the United States (1.3 million), out of the total of 7.9 million visitors.

Visits abroad by UK residents

The number of visits abroad by UK residents in 1974 fell by 9 per cent, compared with 1973, but the fall occurred almost entirely in holiday inclusive tours to non-EEC Western Europe. The number of visits to other areas increased slightly. Visits for other purposes also showed small increases except for the small miscellaneous purpose category, which fell by 13 per cent. The number of holiday inclusive tour visits fell by 25 per cent and accounted for only 40 per cent of all visits abroad in 1974, compared with 48 per cent in 1973.

The number of visits to non-EEC Western Europe fell by 24 per cent and their share of all visits decreased from 42 per cent to 36 per cent. Among the countries of non-EEC Western Europe the largest falls in the number of visits by UK residents were to Austria (43 per cent), Greece (37 per cent), Portugal (30 per cent), Spain (21 per cent) and Switzerland (21 per cent). Within EEC countries the number of visitors to France increased by 14 per cent and the number to Italy, a popular country for holiday inclusive tours, fell by 19 per cent. Of people who went abroad on inclusive tour holidays in 1974 46 per cent visited Spain. Other popular destinations were Italy, (9 per cent), France (6 per cent) and Austria (5 per cent).

TABLE 1 Overseas visitors to the UK

	Number of visits (thousands)	% increase on previous year	Number of nights spent in UK (millions)	% increase on previous year	Expenditure in UK (£ millions)		% increase on previous year
1967	4,289	8.1			236		7.4
1968	4,828	12.6	78.8		282		19.9
1969	5,821	20.6	90.3	14.6	359		27.2
1970	6,692	15.0	100.1	10.9	432		20.3
1971	6,973	4.2	102.3	2.2	486		12.5
1972	7,167	2.8	104.8	2.4	546		12.3
1973	7,724	7.8	109.8	4.8	682		24.9
1974	7,935	2.7	110.6	0.7	834		22.3
					UA	SA	
1st qtr.	1,138	4.4	15.6	–7.4	97	150	19.4
2nd qtr.	1,953	9.2	24.7	15.1	159	167	22.8
3rd qtr.	3,094	7.9	48.5	6.9	269	181	28.2
4th qtr.	1,539	8.2	20.9	–0.6	157	184	20.7
1974							
1st qtr.	1,215	6.7	17.6	12.9	123	190	26.6
2nd qtr.	1,994	2.1	24.1	–2.5	195	205	22.6
3rd qtr.	3,110	0.5	46.2	–4.7	312	210	16.0
4th qtr.	1,616	5.0	22.7	8.6	205	229	30.6

UA = unadjusted SA = seasonally adjusted.

TABLE 2 UK residents going abroad

	Number of visits (thousands)	% increase on previous year	Number of nights spent abroad (million)	% increase on previous year	Expenditure abroad (£ million)		% increase on previous year
1967	7,202	4.1			274		–7.9
1968	7,269	0.9	106.1		271		–1.2
1969	8,083	11.2	117.9	11.1	324		19.8
1970	8,482	4.9	123.6	4.8	382		17.8
1971	9,426	11.1	130.8	5.8	439		14.9
1972	10,553	12.0	143.4	9.6	527		19.9
1973	11,522	9.2	157.0	9.5	682		29.4
1974	10,458	–9.2	138.0	–12.1	681		–0.1
1973					UA	SA	
1st qtr.	1,626	18.5	20.0	15.3	93	152	30.3
2nd qtr.	2,936	13.2	35.6	10.0	161	161	34.0
3rd qtr.	4,891	7.3	75.6	7.6	308	186	29.4
4th qtr.	2,019	1.9	25.9	13.1	120	183	24.3
1974							
1st qtr.	1,518	–6.7	19.4	–3.1	95	160	1.8
2nd qtr.	2,660	–10.9	30.8	–13.5	159	159	–1.2
3rd qtr.	4,505	–7.9	64.6	–14.6	299	172	–2.9
4th qtr.	1,775	–12.1	23.3	–10.0	128	190	6.7

UA = unadjusted. SA = seasonally adjusted.

Fuller results for the International Passenger Survey in 1974 will be published in the fourth quarter 1974 edition of Business Monitor M6: Overseas Travel and Tourism, by HMSO around the end of May. The Business Monitors contain details of notes and definitions.

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in June

This notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in June. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date	Series	Method of release*	Source
June			
2 Mon.	Housing starts and completions (April-prov.)	PN	Department of Environment
	House renovation grants approved (April-prov.)		
3 Tues.	Uk official reserves (May)	PN	HM Treasury
	Capital issues and redemptions (May)	PN	Bank of England
5 Thurs.	Capital expenditure by the manufacturing, distributive and service industries (1st qtr.-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (1st qtr.-prov.)		
	Provisional figures of vehicle production and estimates of new car registrations (May-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
6 Fri.	Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (May)	London Gazette	HM Treasury
9 Mon.	Central government borrowing requirement (April)	Financial Statistics	CSO/ Treasury
	National Debt in 1974-75		
	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (April)	PN	Department of Industry
	Retail trade (April-final)		
	Wholesale price index numbers (May)	PN	Department of Industry
	Investment intentions of the manufacturing, distributive and service industries for 1975 and 1976	PN	Department of Industry
10 Tues.	Borrowing by local authorities (1st qtr.)	PN	CSO
11 Wed.	London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-May)[1]	PN	CLCB
	UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets, reserve ratios and special deposits (mid-May)[1]	PN	Bank of England
	United Kingdom balance of payments (1st qtr.)	PN	CSO/ Treasury
12 Thurs.	UK banking statistics (1st qtr)	Bulletin	Bank of England
	Money stock (1st qtr.)		
13 Fri.	Crude steel production (May)	PN	Department of Industry
	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures incorporating the import and export unit value and volume index numbers and terms of trade (May)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
	Building Societies' receipts and loans (May)	PN	BSA
	Retail prices index (May)	PN	Department of Employment
	Construction – output (1st qtr.)	PN	Department of Environment
16 Mon.	Retail trade (May-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Turnover of the catering trades (April)	PN	Department of Industry
17 Tues.	Index of Industrial production (April)	PN	CSO
18 Wed.	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours end-May)	PN	Department of Employment
	Monthly index of average earnings (April)		
19 Thurs.	Unemployment (June-prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Unfilled vacancies (June-prov.)		
	Car and commercial vehicle production (May-final)	PN	Department of Industry
20 Fri.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (Mar.)	T and I	Department of Industry
	Gross domestic product (1st qtr.-prov.)	PN	CSO
	Finished steel consumption and stocks (1st qtr.-final)	PN	Department of Industry
	New vehicle registrations (May)	PN	Department of Environment
22 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (May)	PN	National Savings Committee
23 Mon.	UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-May)[1]	PN	Bank of England
	Quarterly analysis of bank advances (mid-May)[1]	PN	Bank of England
	Sterling certificates of deposit (mid-May)	PN	Bank of England
	London dollar certificates of deposit (mid-May)	PN	Bank of England
26 Thurs.	Energy trends	PN	Department of Energy
27 Fri.	Construction – new orders (April)	PN	Department of Environment
	Bricks and cement production (May)	PN	Department of Environment
30 Mon.	National Food Survey report on consumption (1st qtr.)	PN	MAFF

* PN = Press Notice
[1] Subject to delay because of changes in definition and coverage

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 23 May 1975.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Erotic Inferno	BR/E 39010/24/5/80	90	20 May	English Film Company Ltd.	English Film Company (Productions) Ltd.
Heading For Glory	BR/E 39011/24/5/80	80	22 May	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	E.P.A. International Programmers Ltd.
Movietone News 2398	BR/E 37828/24/5/80	8	23 May	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
The Bloody Hands of the Law	EC 39008/24/5/80	97	20 May	Eagle Films Ltd.	Difnei Cinematografica, Rome
			FOREIGN		
Deadly China Doll	F 39007	90	20 May	Eagle Films Ltd.	Panasia Films, Hong Kong
A Girl called Jules	F 39009	91	20 May	Butcher's Film Distributors Ltd.	Julia Film S.p.A., Rome

Amendment to the Register
The registration number of the film 'The Sinful Bed' registered on 31 December 1974 has been amended to EC 37887/5/1/80 and the maker's name to read City-Film G.m.b.H., Berlin

Catalogues of Government Publications

Her Majesty's Stationery Office offer their customers a comprehensive service which will enable them to judge whether any other titles in the vast output of Government Publications would help them in their work or leisure. Full information about this service can be obtained by sending a postcard to Publicity Section, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Room C46, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1P 1BN, asking for the CATALOGUE SERVICE LEAFLET.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	16 May 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	23 May 1975
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	4 Apr. 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	23 May 1975
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	6 Feb. 1975
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	9 May 1975
insolvencies (Q)	2 May 1975
liquidity (Q)	14 Mar. 1975
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	18 Apr. 1975
N. Ireland (M)	This week
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
EEC economic indicators	This week
Energy trends (M)	9 May 1975
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	23 May 1975
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	16 May 1975
cinema admissions and takings (M)	2 May 1975
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registrations of films (A)	6 Feb. 1975
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	2 May 1975
household consumption (Q)	14 Mar. 1975
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	23 May 1975
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	16 May 1975
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	18 Apr. 1975
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	23 May 1975
Hire-purchase business (M)	16 May 1975
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	23 May 1975
N. Ireland index (M)	23 May 1975
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	30 Jan. 1975
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	This week
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	7 Mar. 1975
production (M)	25 Apr. 1975
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	7 Mar. 1975
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	2 May 1975
estimated figures (M)	16 May 1975
motor trade turnover (Q)	This week
Office development permits (Q)	9 May 1975
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	11 Apr. 1975
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	23 May 1975
value: analysis of trends (Q)	18 Apr. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Regional selective assistance (M)	9 May 1975
Retail prices index (M)	This week
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	16 May 1975
provisional figures (M)	25 Apr. 1975
sales, N. Ireland (M)	9 May 1975
stocks (M)	This week
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	11 Apr. 1975
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	This week
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' quarterley figures (Q)	4 Apr. 1975
manufacturers' stocks: monthly estimates (M)	2 May 1975
retail (M)	This week
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	25 Apr. 1975
carpet sales (M)	23 May 1975
cotton industry production (M)	2 May 1975
hosiery production (M)	This week
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	23 May 1975
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	2 May 1975
wool exports (Q)	25 Feb. 1975
wool output (M)	2 May 1975
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	14 Mar. 1975
overseas travel and tourism (A)	7 Mar. 1975
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	23 May 1975

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	4 Apr. 1975
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	23 May 1975
ECGD local offices	14 Mar. 1975
Guide to Departments	7 Mar. 1975
Official Receivers' offices	21 Mar. 1975
Programme of trade promotions	18 Apr. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

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A library for exporters

Foreign trade statistics and other economic statistics from almost every country in the world are available for reference in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. A modern well-equipped library of over 85,000 volumes, it has a reading room for visitors and provides a document-copying service. There are trade directories covering 150 countries, and an expanding collection of trade catalogues of overseas manufacturers. The library opens from 9 to 5.30, Mondays to Fridays (Tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368 or Telex No. 886143).

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